

MICHIGAN FARMER.

VOL. VIII.

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NO. 12. Old Series.

VOL. VIII.

WARREN ISHAM, EDITOR.

NO. 6, NEW SERIES.

OUR NEXT VOLUME...READ THIS.

This number closes the eighth volume of the Michigan Farmer, and the third year of our labors as its conductor.

And they have been to us years of schooling, which, we trust, will not be lost upon us. Profiting by the lessons we have learned, and cheered by the encouraging words which are constantly coming to our ears, we shall enter upon the labors of the New Year with renewed energy and zeal, and with the pleasing hope of being able to accomplish *far* more in the way of making ourselves useful, than we have ever done before.

And we want the special co-operation of all our subscribers. If they will see to it that we have readers—if they will give us the circulation we want, and must have, in order to accomplish the great object we have in view, the agricultural regeneration of the State, we will see to it, that nothing shall be wanting on our part to give them a paper adapted to the emergency.—We will toil like a slave, by day and by night, and take great pleasure in so doing, if we can be sustained by the invigorating thought, that we are in a way to accomplish the great work before us. But no such hope can shed light upon our path, unless we can get access to the mass of the people, and such access can never be had, but through the voluntary agency of our subscribers, to every one of whom we look for help.—And why should we not? Multitudes of them profess to be under great obligations to us for the Farmer, and seem to think the dollar they pay for it but a trifling consideration, in comparison with the value they receive. Why should we not, then, look to them for help in extending our circulation? How can they better discharge the obligations they profess to be under? And how else can they more efficiently promote the triumphs of the great cause they profess to have

so much at heart? What we want is, a general rally. Shall we have it?

Many of our friends did nobly last year, and during the year our subscription list has increased beyond all precedent. But it must be doubled next year, at the least calculation, or we shall not feel that we are accomplishing much.

We have confessedly the best corps of correspondents of any agricultural paper the Union. This is admitted by the best judges, both at the east and the west. We shall continue our travels as we have the past year, and if our subscribers will do as well as we hope they will, in increasing our subscription list, we will engage to attend the world's fair, and visit the continent of Europe. Will that be any inducement to effort?

A great many think they can do nothing in the way of getting subscribers, without a prospectus. But you do not want a prospectus at all. A prospectus isn't worth a pin. Just take a copy of the Farmer, and show it to the person whose name you solicit, and it will be worth a dozen prospectuses. If you wear out, or lose, the copies you exhibit, we will send you others.

Terms—Single copies, one dollar; clubs of five for four dollars; of twelve, for nine dollars, and any greater number in like proportion.

We take the following from the Mich. Christian Herald:

The Michiaan Farmer.—This Journal sustains its well-earned character. The farmers of Michigan have good reason to be proud of such an organ devoted to their interests. It is not the echo of foreign papers. Its chief staple is original, and this, pertaining either to the farm or the fireside of its numerous readers, is presented in a manner both scientific and popular. May its shadow never be less.

The Farmer in a candle-box.—A useful hint.—A very intelligent Farmer from Oakland County came into our office the other day to pay his subscription to the Farmer, and remarked, that he had formerly taken it, but not finding it so edifying as he tho't:

it ought it to be, he discontinued it and subscribed for two leading eastern agricultural papers, both of which he still takes. Last summer, as good luck would have it, he purchased some articles for domestic use in the city, and they were packed in a candle box, upon opening which, when he arrived home, he found a copy of the Michigan Farmer, used as a wrapper we suppose. He preserved and read it, and as the result he found it so different a thing from what it used to be, that he determined at once again to become a subscriber. He still takes, as we have said, the two eastern agricultural papers, (esteemed the best in the land,) and he remarked to us, that he obtained more useful information from the Michigan Farmer, than from both of them.

Now there are large numbers of intelligent farmers in our State, precisely in the same condition that this man was previously to his stumbling upon this stray copy of the Michigan Farmer, although their number has been materially diminished during the past year. Will our friends who have those around them, that are bestowing their regards upon foreign papers, to the neglect of their own, simply because they know nothing about it, see to it, that the Michigan Farmer is thrown in their way!

NOTES BY THE WAY.—No. 82.

BY THE EDITOR.

During a recent very brief visit to Dexter and vicinity, some few things, which may not be unworthy of note, fell under our observation.

Dexter is a thriving village, of from eight to ten hundred inhabitants, fifty miles from Detroit, upon the Central Railroad, has two fine flouring mills, (upon the Huron,) carrying seven run of stone, and is quite a place of deposit for produce, no less than fourteen flouring mills making their shipments at this point.

The land on which Dexter now stands, with many hundred acres around it, was originally taken up by Judge Dexter, who still owns the greater portion of it, and whose hospitable mansion stands upon a delightful elevation, commanding a full view of the village and the surrounding region, being quite an object of attention from the cars as they pass.

When he located here, twenty-five years ago, there was no house nearer than eight miles to the east, and none to the west of him, and the nearest mill was at Detroit, and that a wind-mill.

Although Judge D. has large tracts of land under improvement at his homestead, he has given but little attention to farming. He has,

however, some of the best Durham stock we have seen, judging from a lot of calves which we noticed in the yard, some of them being quite remarkable for size and perfection of parts.

His Barn—His barn is most admirably contrived. Underneath the main building is a basement, walled up with stone laid in mortar. In this there is to be a granary, a department for roots, &c. &c. Upon one side of this basement a door opens into a wing a hundred feet long, which is devoted to stabling and a hay-loft. We know not when nor where we have seen anything which looks so much like a regard to cattle comfort. The wing, we should think, projects northward; the first story on the west side being walled up, which affords effectual protection against the west winds. Along the wall, the whole whole length, is an aisle, some four feet wide, into which the hay is dropped from the loft, and from which it is transferred to the manger, which runs parallel to it, and adjacent to it, also the whole length of the wing, and which is so deep that little hay can be wasted, each animal being provided with a box for meal, shorts, &c. If animals cannot enjoy winter life in such quarters, they must be hard to please.

It is very true that but few farmers, comparatively, in the west, are able to build such barns, but every farmer, who is fit to be such, is able to have some sort of protection to his cattle against the cold of winter, and he *will* have it, if he regards either their comfort or his own interest, and the two are inseparably connected. Duty and interest, in this instance as in every other, go hand in hand.

What!—Speak of duty to a beast! Yes, duty to a beast. Even the Sabbath day, according to the teachings of the Savior, is not too sacred to be devoted to their rescue from peril; and the disposition exercised towards them is very appropriately deemed a fair test of moral character, "the merciful man" being known by his being "merciful to his beast," and *vice versa*. In fact, the man who abuses his beast, shows himself destitute of the essential elements of a trustworthy character. If we had any important transactions with such a man, we should certainly keep an eye upon him, for he has proved himself unworthy the confidence of both man and beast, and both are on the alert for him.

And how blind to his own interest is the man who is guilty of inhumanity to his beast! How dearly does he pay for his over-tasking and under-

feeding rapacity! But there are multitudes who would neither be thought to over-task or under-feed, and who would not, for the world, have their respectability called in question, that yet never dreamed that their cattle had any special claims upon them for protection from the cold of winter, or that they would be held accountable for neglecting to afford such protection.

It is a fact, accordant alike with the results of experience and the deductions of science, that cattle exposed to the cold of winter will consume a far greater quantity of food, say from one-third to one-half, than cattle protected from the cold, in a warm stable.

And after all the additional food they have consumed, they will come out poor in the spring, if indeed they live to see it, and they will not sell for so much by one-third, as if they had been protected from the cold of winter. And for use, their value is equally reduced. If they be working oxen, they will be of little value for spring work. If milch cows, they will not be of half the value for dairy purposes they would have been, if wintered so as to come out in good order in the spring. If young stock, they will be checked in their growth, and will never recover. If sheep, the feeble portion of them will die off, and the fleeces of those which survive, will be greatly reduced in weight by exposure to the cold and storms. If horses, they will not look like the same animals, nor begin to command the same price they would if kept in good order.

Such, and so great, is the penalty which a righteous providence inflicts upon the man who mal-treats the animals which were created for his use, and subjected to his authority. For the abuse of that authority, he is doomed to condign punishment. And yet, there are multitudes among us who never dreamed they are suffering the infliction of such a penalty, because they do not know what they are losing by such treatment of their animals, never having known, from experience, the advantages resulting from a full discharge of duty to their stock.

Philosophy of it—We said that the effect of cold, in increasing the consumption of food, &c., was a fact, accordant as well with the deductions of science as the results of experience, and so it is. We will try to explain this, and will do our best to make ourself understood. Should we succeed, this very circumstance would spoil it all for some people, for they have no conception that anything can be scientific which can be understood, or which is not wrapped in impenetrable mystery. Being always befogged themselves, and calling themselves philosophers, they think that all other true philosophers must, of necessity, be befogged in the same way.

But to our task: Be it known, then, that the animal system must be kept warm by some means, and scientific researches have established the fact, that this is accomplished in the same way that a room is warmed by the consumption of fuel. And how is that done? Simply by the chemical union of the oxygen of the atmosphere with the carbon of the wood, forming carbonic acid gas, which goes off in the form of smoke, latent heat being evolved in the process. Woody fibre being composed simply of carbon (charcoal,) and the two elements, oxygen and hydrogen, in the exact proportion in which they exist in water, the result of its combustion is the conversion of these two elements into watery vapor, at the same time that its carbon is converted into carbonic acid gas, heat being given out in the process.

And the animal system is kept warm by the same process, a portion of the food, which would otherwise go to the nourishment of the system being consumed for this purpose.

The portion of the food which is consumed in this process, is *starch*, a substance which constitutes far the greater portion of wheat flour, and a large proportion of all grains and vegetables, and which is very readily convertible into fat, differing but slightly from it in its composition. It is composed of the same elements which constitute woody fibre, viz: carbon, and the two elements which constitute water, viz: oxygen and hydrogen, and in precisely the same proportion. The oxygen of the atmosphere which is inhaled into the lungs, unites with the carbon of the starch, as it passes through the lungs in the blood, and is breathed out in the form of carbonic acid gas, (smoke,) while the oxygen and hydrogen are breathed out at the same time, in the form of watery vapor, and in the process heat is evolved, just as it would be if you were to set fire to the starch with a match, (which can readily be done,) only in the latter case combustion would be more rapid, and the heat evolved, of course, greater in degree.

That the oxygen of the atmosphere which is inhaled, does unite with the carbon in the blood, is proved by the fact that, in its place, carbonic acid gas, to a great extent, is breathed out. And that the oxygen and hydrogen are converted into watery vapor, is manifest from the fact that watery vapor is breathed out at the same time. Who that ever tied his pocket handkerchief over his breathing apparatus, in a cold day, and observed how soon it became saturated with water and congealed to ice, does not know this?

Thus it is that a slow fire is kept up in the system, and heat diffused through the blood to every part of it, the wind-pipe serving as a chimney to let off the smoke, which can be seen issuing in volumes, upon a cold day. And do you not ob-

serve that, the colder the day, the more visible and solid the smoke which issues from the chimney of a house? The cause which produces this effect is the same in both cases, being undoubtedly the action of cold in condensing the watery vapor.

And thus it is that cattle, exposed to the cold of winter, consume so much more food than those which are protected from the cold, a great portion of the food they consume being used for fuel, to keep them warm—and yet, in spite of it, they not unfrequently suffer much, and become very poor.

But how very little is this matter considered by our farmers generally. How little do they realize what a tax they pay every winter to keep their cattle from freezing to death—a tax which, in a single season, would probably be sufficient to erect comfortable shelters for their stock, thereby greatly increasing their value, as well as saving this direct outlay for fuel, and at the same time so greatly promoting their comfort and enjoyment!

We are well aware that multitudes of our farmers make the same excuse for not protecting their cattle from the cold of winter, which they do for other branches of bad husbandry, viz: that they have not the means to do otherwise.—But the truth is, that, in most cases, it is attributable to culpable neglect, growing out of the want of a due appreciation of the advantages which would result from the outlay.

And there are those who are so demented on the subject, as to contend that cattle will be hardier, and stand the winter better, to be exposed to the cold, so as to get "seasoned to it," and that protection in a comfortable stable will make them tender. On the same principle, would not a family be tougher and hardier to live in a cold garret, without fire, than in a room comfortably warmed?

For the Michigan Farmer.

UNWASHED WOOL.

DETROIT, Nov., 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Your correspondent, "C. W. D." of Scio, wishes me to say "what unwashed Vermont wool is worth, per lb." It might be very easy for a Vermont wool buyer to answer the question literally, but for one who has had no experience in the Vermont market, it is not quite so easy. I can tell him, however, that every judicious wool buyer in Michigan will deduct one-third from the weight or price of unwashed wool, grown either upon Vermont or Michigan sheep. This rule admits of a variation in some instances, when great care has been taken by the grower to keep the fleece clean, and when this is not the case, and the fleece is particularly oily, the deduction should be greater. He will find another drawback in marketing unwashed wool, as few buyers are permitted to purchase it; little or no

competition exists for it, and the experienced buyer makes his own terms.

If "C. W. D." wishes to try the experiment, let him carefully grow his wool, put it in good order, and send it to a manufacturer who wants that grade of wool, and he will give him a fair price for the article; and he can, in a few years, find whether it is for his interest to market his wool cleansed, or not.

O. K. D.

RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSITION IN THE LAST FARMER ON FENCING.

For the Michigan Farmer.

STURGIS, St. Jo. Co., Mich.

October 24th, 1850.

Friend Isham:

Your valuable paper comes regularly, and is welcome. I am much pleased to see a spirit of improvement manifesting itself amongst the farmers of Michigan, and for the dissemination of useful information, you are entitled to our eternal gratitude. As for myself, I am but a beginner at farming, and find the advice of experienced farmers of great utility.

Amongst the communications of the Oct. No. of our paper, I observe a proposition, by a Prairie farmer, relative to something of *utility, durability, beauty*, and cheapness, for fences. I think we have all those properties combined, in the *Osage orange*, the favorite hedge plant of the United States, which has already become too well known to need any particular description. It grows in the wilds of North America, in regions farther north than New York, and farther south than the Carolinas. It is usually, in this country, from ten to fifteen feet in height, though, like the English thorn, it is said sometimes to attain the height of fifty and even sixty feet.

Its utility as a hedge plant is no longer an experiment. Hedges of the rarest beauty and excellence have been growing in Boston, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati; in Kentucky, Tennessee, and northern Missouri, and, in short, in all the southern and middle States. Some of these hedges have been standing ten or twelve years; they were planted by gentlemen of wealth and taste, around their favorite walks and grounds, at a time when the plants sold at the rate of \$5 per thousand. In our new State we have had no rich men thus to bring it practically to the notice of the public. This has been, in years past, the sole cause of the comparative ignorance and indifference of our farmers to this great interest. Our editors and intelligent men of all classes, have labored, with commendable zeal, to dispel this indifference and doubt, and it is gratifying to know that they have not labored in vain.—Thousands of our most enterprising and intelligent farmers will resolve at once to avail themselves of its benefits, and adorn their farms with its many and varied beauties.

Among all who have written on the subject, no unfavorable account has come to the knowledge of the writer. The plant and the hedge are universally admired and commended, and it is confidently believed, by the best judges, that it will double the real value of any farm it surrounds. But the community must first learn, that there is as much difference in the quality of hedges and hedge plants, as in houses, or dry goods, or anything else on sale.

Yours, &c.

J. KRAMER.

P.S. If any should wish information relative to the sale of the Osage orange, it will be cheerfully given, with any other information desired.

J. KRAMER.

For the Michigan Farmer.

OLD PONE.

Extraordinary Horse.

Ed. Mich. Farmer:

Some twenty-five years ago, I used to see, almost daily, a very beautiful horse galloping through the streets of the city of Albany, under his present owner, Mr. George Young, now of Grand Rapids. His almost perfect form, and beautiful movement, won the admiration of all who saw him.

Nearly two years ago, while on a visit to my old friend Young, I had the pleasure of seeing his old favorite, apparently as young as ever.—You may be sure I was surprised to find him still alive. On making some inquiries about him, I learned that he was still as "coltish" as ever, and that he would, under no circumstances whatever, allow any but the members of the family to ride him to town; and if a stranger mounted him he was sure to throw him before he could get to town, about three miles distant. He is truly a noble animal, and having lived to a good old age, I concluded your readers might be interested to know something of and about him. I therefore requested Mr. Young to send me his history, and in reply he writes me as follows:

"You request a history of my favorite old horse, *Pone*. Twenty-five years ago, last May, I purchased him from an individual who said he was fifteen years, and no older. If he was then only fifteen, he is now past forty. The same person said he was imported into the city of Boston from England, and that he took him in exchange, as part pay for a span of carriage horses. His color is a beautiful bright bay. Since I have owned him, he has not been sick one hour. For six years I drove him in a buggy, and rode him under the saddle, in the city of Albany, and for the last nineteen years he has been one of a farm team. He works well this summer, and appears in perfect health. He is perfectly sound, both in body and limbs. His eyes are not very good—they have become dim; he has the action and appearance of a colt, and when moving, strangers frequently take him to be a colt. Two years ago,

this winter, I drove him 240 miles in four days.—I am frequently asked, 'Does he feed well?'—'Can he eat hay?'

"I will here add, that about nineteen years ago, I found that he did not grind his oats well; I then had his front teeth filed down, and since then he has been able to feed with the youngest horses. Last Friday, he and his mate plowed two acres, for seeding, and this evening he takes four of my family to the village, three miles distant, to church, before a buggy."

Allow me to add—I know Mr. Young to be a man of truth and veracity, and all that he has said about *old Pone* is strictly true. And it is fair to presume that the "individual" who sold him to Mr. Y., did not purposely overrate his age, when he said he was 15.

JEREMIAH BROWN.

Oshtemo, Cal. Co., Nov. 5th, '50.

FRUIT-DRYING ESTABLISHMENT.

For the Michigan Farmer.

PLYMOUTH, Nov. 16, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir: In the last number of the Farmer, I observe an article in regard to some kind of fixture for drying fruit, which seems to recommend a large *stone platform* under which a large furnace is placed, where is kept a *good fire*, for the purpose of carrying on the process of drying fruit.* Now it appears to me that such a contrivance would be a clumsy concern, as well as needlessly expensive. I think a much more convenient and cheap plan may be adopted.

My plan would be to erect a building of framework, of suitable size—say 6 feet by 10, or larger if thought needful—with hurdles, with wire bottoms on each side, so arranged as to be readily removed without interfering with each other. The door of the house to be on one end, and a box stove placed at the other, so arranged as to open on the outside of the building, for the greater convenience of keeping up a fire—to be secured from fire by brick-work—the stove pipe to run lengthwise of the room, high enough to clear one's head, and pass out at the roof, near the door. The house should be so tight as to exclude flies, wasps, &c., which may easily be done by plastering. Ventilators may be made at the ends near the peak of the roof, to let off the steam that may arise from the process of drying, if thought best, to be opened and closed at pleasure. For the convenience of drying small fruits, such as currants, cherries, &c., tin plates may be used to good effect.

It seems to me that a plan of this kind must commend itself to every person who may regard neatness and convenience as worth attending to. After the season of drying fruit is past, the house

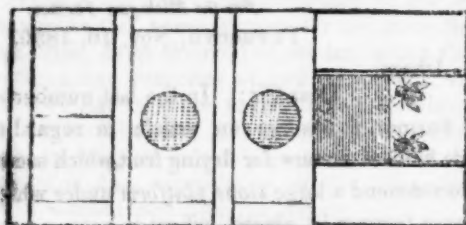
may be used for keeping the fruit in bags, and for various other purposes.†

Yours truly,
AMOS MEAD.

* We did not understand our correspondent to recommend this method, but the reverse—speaking of it as the method practiced in Texas, but not likely to be of much use here.—Ed.

† We take pleasure in introducing our venerable friend to the readers of the Farmer, and trust this will not be the only instance in which they will be benefitted by the results of his experience and observation.—Ed.

¶ We invite attention to the series of articles from our Bloomfield correspondent, on the subject of bee culture which we are now publishing. They embrace about all that is important to be known upon the subject, and to apirians they must be especially interesting and profitable.



For the Michigan Farmer.

ON BEES...No. 2.

ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HIVE.

First, they should be constructed of sound, well-seasoned boards, free from shakes, cracks and knot holes; they should also be planed outside and in, made in a good workmanlike manner, and painted white upon the outside. That they should be made well, so as to exclude light and air, is obvious from the fact that bees will complete, at much cost of time what the workman has neglected to do, by plastering up all cracks, crevices and bad joints, left open by the joiner, with a kind of glue or cement of their own manufacturing. This cement is very congenial to the growth of the moth in the first stages of its existence.

The size of the hive should be in accordance with strict rules of economy, and adapted to the peculiar nature of the honey bee, in order to make them profitable to the owner. The lower part, or main body of the hive, where they store their food, raise their young bees, and perform their ordinary labours, should hold about as much as a box of thirteen inches square on the inside, in addition to which there should be an apartment of a less size, within which it is proposed to place two small drawers, boxes or caps, of one-fourth of the size of the body of the hive, for the purpose of storing and from thence obtaining the surplus honey.

If the hive is much larger than above described, the bees cannot work to advantage, and will not be likely to fill the smaller boxes or drawers for several years, if they swarm, and their prosperity depends very much upon their swarming—it is their nature to do so, and any management which counteracts their natural habits impedes them in their labours, and renders them of but little profit to their owner, and they finally run out or come to an end in a few years.

Bees in large hives never swarm; and in hives much smaller than the one above described, do little else than raise young bees, swarm, and lay up sufficient quantity of food to supply them through the winter, and are more liable to be robbed by their neighboring and stronger swarms—All hives of bees that swarm, are liable to swarm too much, and increase their colonies so much as to materially injure the mother swarm, by reducing its numbers, which is frequently the cause of their destruction by the miller. Those that are so large that they never swarm are unprofitable from that fact; and for two other reasons—first as before intimated, they are not likely to place much, if any honey in the caps or drawers, so long as there is abundance of room in the body of the hive, so that what surplus honey they may have is difficult to obtain, except by the usual process of killing the bees by the application of fire and brimstone, and when so obtained it is unfit for use. Secondly, for the reason, that, as a matter of course the bees will increase under proper management, it being their nature to do so, and in time the hive contains from four to six times the quantity of an ordinary swarm of working bees, and but one Queen or female bee, upon which they are entirely dependant for the propagation of their species. Now, supposing she lays but fifteen or twenty thousand eggs in a season (which is stated by naturalists to be about the number) the great number of working bees sallying forth to gather food, and consequently the great number that would be destroyed by birds and other causes would, as may be perceived, at a certain time, equal the number hatched, so that the swarm would not increase at all.

And again, if this Queen or female bee should chance to die at any time between about the middle of September and the first of April following, the swarm would be totally worthless and run out, as there would be no knits, or eggs, from which to produce another Queen. On the other hand, if we had originally placed this swarm in an ordinary sized hive, let us see what would have been the probable result. In due time, with proper care, we should have an increase of swarms or colonies, of from four to six, and at least as many bees, (and most likely many more) than from the large palace hive, with a Queen to each swarm, capable of laying her fifteen or twenty thousand eggs per annum, and if, perchance one of the Queens should die during the winter, the loss is comparatively small.

We propose to make the body of the hive in

two parts, or sections, as represented in the annexed drawing or cut, for the following reasons.—Should the young swarm be very small, the size of the hive into which we propose to put them, may be reduced by using only one part or section, leaving a smaller space for them to warm by their animal heat during the winter.

Again, should the young swarm be very large, the size of the hive may be increased by adding one or more sections; but it will seldom, if ever, be necessary to add more than two (inclusive of the caps or drawers) unless two swarms should chance to come out and light together, which is sometimes the case, and as I know of no very convenient way of dividing them, I should place them all in one hive together, which will usually require an additional section to the hive.

Another, and the most important reason for constructing the main body of the hive in two parts, or sections, is, that when bees have occupied one tenement, and used the combs three or four years, the combs become thick and filthy, by being filled up with bee bread or pollen, of which they always collect a greater quantity than they use, so as, in a short time to leave sufficient empty comb for the purpose of raising their young. They also become filled up in the course of three or four seasons, with cocoons, and a shell or substance left in the cell by the young bee, when transformed from a larva into a perfect bee.—They are always encased in a silken cocoon or shroud, when in their torpid, or chrysalis state, which is never removed from the cell. Thus, each bee raised in the same cell, leaves an additional cocoon, and they are many during a season—and in the course of three or four years, the cells become so much contracted or filled up, that the young bees come forth mere dwarfs, and soon cease to swarm. These dwarfs may be seen in great numbers, on a summer day, on the ground, in the vicinity of the hive, some minus a wing, some a portion of both, and some with no wings at all.

Now, to provide against this piece of ill luck, we have proposed to construct the body of the hives in two apartments, and on or about the fifteenth day of March or first of April, when the bees have eaten the honey out of the lower half or section, and collected in the upper, which they will do more or less, remove the lower half or section, clean out the old comb, or rather remove it entirely, and replace the empty portion or section, but replace it on the top of the portion containing the bees, so that we may apply the same remedy to this ill luck the succeeding season, or as soon thereafter as may be requisite. Thus should the combs be exchanged every third year.

For the reasons above assigned, we propose to construct the lower apartment or apartments of the hives or sections, (where the bees store their food, raise their young, and perform their ordinary labours) each seven and one-half inches in depth, and fifteen inches in width, either way,

these measurements being upon the outside, and constructed of lumber, at least one inch in thickness, so that when the two sections are placed together, in a condition to receive a swarm, (one above the other,) we have the main body of a hive, fifteen inches square, in external appearance, or measurement.

Each of these boxes, or sections, should have four holes in its top, or cover, of at least two inches in diameter. In the laying out a drafting of the cover for these holes, we lay off one inch from the edge, or margin thereof, leaving a space of thirteen inches square. This we divide into four equal parts, by drawing a line each way through the centre; In the centre of these small squares, we cut the holes; these holes are intended for the passage ways for the bees, also for circulation of air, and the further purpose of admitting the bees into the caps or drawers. We also cut a hole of the same size in one side of each section of the main body of the hives, for the purpose ventilation, which should be as near the top board or cover as it can be cut, and place upon each side of them small cleats into which are cut small grooves for the purpose of receiving a strip of tin or zinc, one end of which should be perforated with holes, and as many as can well be punched, of about the size of those in a skimmer, and the other end left plain. It is intended, that these tins should be moveable, in the grooves, giving a greater or less, passage for air, as may be requisite, as the weather changes, and for other reasons which will hereafter appear.

We now propose to construct another section, for the purpose of being placed upon the main body of the hive, of the same dimensions as one of the others, made perfectly plain, *without any holes*, intended for the reception of two smaller boxes or drawers. The hive then, when put together, for all the purposes for which it is constructed, will have the external appearance of three plain boxes, one resting upon the other, with a hole covered with a tin, in each of the lower ones, and being in measurement twenty two and one half inches in height or depth perpendicularly, and fifteen inches in diameter or square, horizontal measurement either way.

We now propose to construct and place under this upper portion or section, two small boxes, caps, or drawers, *together*, of sufficient dimensions to fill the upper section. They should fit loosely, say having one eighth of an inch or more, play, each of thirteen inches in height, (less the play) and six and one half, square horizontal measurement either way. These cups or drawers, should have each two holes upon one side, to wit, upon the side intended as the cover, or side that we intend to take off when we remove the honey. These holes should correspond in every way with the hole in the top of the body portion of the hive; they should each have a hole cut thro' the end, of about the same size, over which and upon the inside, they should be covered with a piece of window glass.

The cover of these drawers, or boxes, (the side in which are the holes,) should be fastened with screws. The boxes may be made of common siding, or lumber, about five eighths of an inch thick, and should be well seasoned. They may be made somewhat larger than above described, in which case the upper section of the hive under which they are intended to be placed, should of course be proportionally larger, which increase in size, should be in its depth, so as to leave the upper section horizontally of the same size as the lower portion, or main body of the hive, but they should always be much smaller than one of the portions of the main body of the hive.

These cups, or drawers, are attached to a hive for the following very conclusive reasons; first, each properly managed, ordinary swarm of bees, will collect at least thirty pounds of surplus honey, each season, which is very difficult for the owner to take from hives constructed in the ordinary manner, without the destruction of the bees, and when so obtained, it is unfit for use, being mostly black and filthy in the combs, and when strained still filthy and bitter from the pollen or bee-bread that is necessarily mixed with it. And as worthless as it is, it can only be obtained after the cool weather in the fall, without still another admixture to add to its flavour (either good or bad) to wit, a brood of young bees or maggots.

Bees breed when they are lodged in the greatest numbers, or in the main body of the hive. They deposit no pollen or bee-bread in the vicinity of their young brood. The drawers, or cups, then being too small to admit the principal portion of the bees, they will commence and continue their breeding operations, in the body of the hive, and deposit the surplus honey in the drawers, or cups, and there it remains, until removed by the owner, perfectly clean and pure; and it can be removed at any time in the summer as well as autumn, by simply inserting a sheet of tin, or zinc, between the cups, or drawers, and the body of the hive, letting the tin remain until an empty cup or drawer is put in its place; again, should a swarm be deficient in honey for its support during the winter, a drawer, or cup of honey taken from some other swarm may be inserted.

The reason for placing these cups, or drawers under the upper section of the hive, is to exclude them from the chilly air of the evening. There being but few bees in them to warm them by their animal heat, it is necessary that they should be kept warm by a greater artificial heat, or protection from chilly weather, and they either will not or cannot make combs unless kept quite warm.

It may be supposed from the annexed cut, that the small boxes or cups are intended to slide like drawers, or be inserted from the front. This is not so, although it may be done, but we much prefer raising the upper section and placing them under it to sliding them in as drawers.

* * *

Bloomfield, Nov. 26. 1850.

For the Michigan Farmer.

BREAKING STEERS.

Friend Isham:

As the time of year is close at hand, which is most proper for such work, I propose to offer a few hints on the management of steers.

In the first place, I prefer to have them kept tame from their youth up, which will save much labor in yoking, and by which means they will be less liable to run, and worry themselves, on being yoked. However, if this be neglected, I think it best to catch them, by throwing a rope over their horns; if they are very wild, it is well to take a long rope, make a noose in the end, and with a pole place it gently over the horns. It is a very wild steer that will not permit a man to come within ten feet of him, and fasten him in this way. They may then be tied up and allowed to stand and eat a while, and then be untied again. Let this be repeated several times before yoking them, and if, on such occasions, they could have something a little better than usual, they would soon think it a very nice thing to be tied up.

When they get so that they will submit cheerfully to this kind of treatment, they may be yoked together, and allowed to stand an hour or two, every day, with the same kind of treatment, until they become familiar with the yoke. My method is, then to commence driving them from place to place, still keeping them shut up close in a yard.

When they are first started, they will be apt to run; if so, let them go—they will stop when they get to the fence. Then go and start them again, and continue to do so for a while, and they will get tired of running, and will go slow, and allow a man to go along with them. Then, while walking by the side of them, request them to stop, at the same time placing the whip suddenly before them. If this will not stop them at first, then wait until they get to the fence—then tell them to stop, and they will be sure to mind. After repeating this a few times, it may be successfully tried in the middle of the yard.

It will then do to take them out and drive them in the road, after requiring them to stop, and be sure to speak only once for this purpose. When they will stop at the word, the task of breaking is very far advanced; they may then be required to haul light loads, and often guided to the right and left, which may be done in various ways, not necessary to describe, at the same time telling them to do so, until they learn what is meant by *whoa!*—*haw!*—*gee!* &c.

It is often necessary for a team to step backward a little, and even to back a load; this can be easily taught them by stopping them in the

road, then stepping before them, and advancing rapidly before them, with whip in hand, and bidding them to back, at the same time. In this way they will step back without being whipped, or hallooed at, and will soon learn to do it at the word of command.

A. HENRY.

Lansing, Nov. 4, 1850.

For the Michigan Farmer.

VERMONT SHEEP.

ANN ARBOR, NOV., 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir: I perceive, by the last No. of the Farmer, that your Scio correspondent sums up the Vermont sheep, and speaks his mind freely respecting their wool. You very truly remark that this sheep excitement will soon find its proper level;* it is coming to that point now with railroad speed, and those who have been led away by the sheep fever to pay from \$100 to \$200 for bucks, will find, ere the year 1851 rolls around, that gold can be bought too dear.

I have conversed with a number of farmers from different towns of this county, and I have found but one solitary exception in favor of Vermont sheep. There is now, in Washtenaw county alone, several hundred first rate merino bucks for sale, and some from New York, which can be had at from \$3 to \$5 per head. Good merino ewes can be had in abundance, at from one to two dollars each; then why should bucks be held so high, of the same kind and quality? It is quite as easy to raise a buck as an ewe. Farmers are now so well supplied with bucks, that it is rather difficult to sell them at any price, making your words true, the value of bucks have nearly found their level.

If gentlemen are badly attacked with sheep fever, and choose to empty their pockets to the tune of one or two hundred dollars for a buck, that is their business, and others have no right to complain. The sheep masters of the east have no right to complain—they have reaped a rich harvest, and made more money by curing the sheep fever in Michigan, than our doctors ever made by curing the fever and ague. W. A.

* Not exactly. We said, "These matters will, in the end, adjust themselves; each breed of sheep, upon fair experiment, finding its own proper level—those only which are really worthy, sustaining themselves, as the upshot of the whole matter." That is perfectly non-committal, equal to any specimen of non-committalism that can be produced, and if any capital can be made of it,

for any purpose, we are deceived and out-generated.

The truth is, we do not intend to embroil ourselves in any quarrel about sheep. We know very well, that every man in Michigan who owns a fine flock of sheep, thinks that there is nothing quite equal to them in the west, and that they came from the very State, and from the very flock in that State, to which, above all others, we are to look for the right sort of sheep.

Now all this is well enough. It is quite a consolation to a man to think that he has gotten the best of everything there is, and that other people's things "are no touch" to his, and very innocent withal, for no one is injured by it, unless, indeed, he pushes matters so far as to butt against his neighbors, in which case he will be very likely to get butted back again.

We never could be made to believe that all the good sheep in the Union are cooped up within the limits of any single State. In our travels we have seen a great many very superior flocks of sheep, and from many different States; from Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, and Vermont; and we have seen as good sheep from the latter as from any other State.

In regard to blanketing, &c., we know nothing; but it would be hard to make us believe that the immense flocks of fine-wooled sheep in Vermont are all blanketed. Fudge! What good would a blanket do? Just as much as to draw a spider's web over them, unless it was, indeed to keep out the dirt, or protect them against rain storms, when they run out, which certainly no one would object to, if their owners were foolish enough to do it.

That there have been instances of deception practiced by sheep-dealers, and that extravagant prices have sometimes been paid, we have no doubt. But, as a general thing, sheep-breeders are interested to sustain a character for fair dealing. Indeed, how else can they carry on their business? Impossible.

In regard to prices, who does not know that, by the laws of political economy, they rise and fall, as the demand rises above or falls below the supply? So it has been ever since the world began, and so it will continue to be until time shall be no more, and we can't help it, any more than we can unsettle the order of the universe. When the demand is based upon deception, the bubble will soon burst of itself, and when it is not, as the supplies increase, as they naturally will, faster than the demand, prices will decline.

We do not profess to be greatly versed in these matters, but we profess to have common sense, and to know something of men and things, and this is the way the thing strikes us.—Ed.

For the Michigan Farmer.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

ANN ARBOR, NOV., 1850.

Mr. Isham:

In the last No. of the Farmer, page 349, on the subject of crossing Devons and Durhams, your printer made me say he sold heifers in pairs; it should have been, "sold them at fairs," for thirty guineas each.

As the Executive Committee meet next month to make arrangements for the next fair, allow me to suggest the propriety of appointing five judges of cattle, and the same number on sheep. As it frequently happens that one or more of the judges on animals are either competitors, or otherwise interested in stock, and when the animals of one or more of the judges come in competition with others, let such judges stand back, and allow the others, who are not interested, to decide the case, so far as the judge's stock is concerned, and then he can resume his place again, as at first.*

My object is to correct whatever past errors have been committed, and prevent, as far as possible, their recurrence in future. It is useless to invite judges out of the State; we have had enough of that, as some of the present Executive Committee well know.† I am aware of the difficulty of selecting competent judges, qualified to distinguish and decide the nice points between cattle, sheep and their wool; it is equally difficult, even for good judges, to determine with credit to themselves and satisfaction to the exhibitors.—Good judges of animals are not plenty, and those gentlemen who take pride and pleasure in breeding good stock, and have been attentive, close observers of all the good and bad points of animals, are, in my opinion the most capable of performing that duty, unless their understandings are blinded by self-interest. No man should be permitted to judge, or have a voice in deciding, when he is interested.

Deep plowing appears to be all the rage, at present;‡ no doubt it is beneficial in many respects,§ but it is idle to imagine that it will always ensure good crops.¶ Deep plowing, in many cases, will ensure the crop a few years, but it so much the sooner impoverishes the land, unless the elements removed by the crops are returned to the soil.** Plowing under clover is a good practice, if not carried too far; turning under large quantities of clover often, will eventually produce a large growth of straw and a small crop of wheat.

A. W.

* Does not the same reason exist for having five on other committees?—Ed.

† Why? We see no reason why judges out of the State should not be as well qualified as those who live in it. A good judge is a good judge, let him live where he may. And certain

ly, as a general thing, persons living in the State would be more likely to be interested in the result than those living out of it. Exceptions there may be, and are.—Ed.

‡ Not half as much the rage as we wish it was, nor a tenth part, nor a hundredth.—Ed.

§ True.—Ed.

¶ Equally true.—Ed.

** Not true. To say that the deeper you plow the sooner you will impoverish the land, is worse than idle.

Just consider, that most soils that have been skimmed over four inches deep, for a series of years, have become exhausted of certain elements, which exist in abundance in the subsoil, but which are too deep in the earth to be available to the growing crop—and is it not manifest that if these elements had been brought up by deep plowing, from the beginning, the soil would have been replenished with just what it needed to prevent exhaustion? How, then, does it appear, that the deeper you plow the sooner the soil will become exhausted? Is not the reverse the fact? Is it not clearly manifest, that the effect above specified is chargeable upon shallow plowing, and not upon deep? Is it not a fact, attested by universal experience, as well as sustained by the deductions of reason, that the shallower you plow, the sooner the soil will become exhausted?—and, on the other hand, the deeper you plow, the longer it will hold out? We do not mean the deeper the subsoil is turned up, but the deeper it is loosened. It may be turned up to advantage to a considerable depth, greater or less, according to the depth of the surface soil, and below that it may be loosened, with equal advantage, to any depth which it is possible to reach with the subsoil plow.

Undoubtedly "it is idle to imagine that deep plowing will always ensure good crops," unless the elements removed by the crops are returned to the soil. That is a doctrine we have always taught. But there are more ways than one to restore the abstracted elements. In the first place, deep plowing lets in air and heat, and this aids in the decomposition of the mineral elements of the subsoil, at the same time that the fertilizing elements of the air are left in the soil. In the next place, the soil should never be plowed without turning under green manure. Clover turned under will never have the effect imputed to it by our friend, if it is covered deep enough. Upon analysis, it is found to contain the same elements which enter into the composition of wheat. With such management, "it is not idle to imagine, that deep plowing will always ensure good crops."—Ed.

For the Michigan Farmer.

HOWELL, Nov. 3d, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir: I herewith send you one dollar, for your new volume of the Michigan Farmer for one year, commencing with the July No., of course. I am very much interested in the Farmer, and shall do all I can to advance its interest, believing that in so doing I shall advance equally the great interest of farming, generally, throughout our State.

Myself and family are all anxious to get the Farmer.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

GEORGE W. JEWETT.

FLINT, October 30th, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir: Enclosed is one dollar, for the Michigan Farmer one year. I read attentively, and with great profit and amusement, your invaluable paper, and cannot conceive of an excuse which any reading and thrifty farmer can render for not sustaining it by his subscription.—Its rich and instructive articles need only to be read, to be appreciated as practical common sense productions—the every-day experience of our most enlightened and thrifty farmers. I have been struck with its rare and singular usefulness, in giving wholesome instruction in what are considered the small matters pertaining to farming, as well as the large.

Yours truly,

DANIEL O. SULLINAN.

MOUNT VERNON, Macomb Co., Oct. 29.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir. Enclosed you will find two dollars, which you will pass to my credit.

I have been a constant reader of the Farmer for the last three years, and I will say, (though without any desire to puff,) that it is the best agricultural paper that has come to my notice—and I have had considerable acquaintance with eastern agricultural papers.

Yours truly,

A. G. BENEDICT.

A QUESTION PUT: We are constantly in receipt of testimonials like the above, from the most distinguished agriculturists, both in this and other States. And now, we put it to our friends, one and all, whether, if the Farmer be what they esteem it, it would not be a pleasure to them, as well as a duty, to use special efforts to extend its circulation. Only a single month is to elapse between this and the first of January, when the new volume commences, and we call upon all who think they have been benefitted more than the worth of their dollar, to pay us the balance

in that way, if it be their good pleasure. The kind friends who did so well last year, will doubtless be among the first to enter the field this year, and with increased interest. But their number must be multiplied many fold. Here, then, is a chance to show your gratitude and good will.

SHI WASSEE Co. FAIR.

For the Michigan Farmer.

SHIAWASSEE, Nov. 3d, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

A press of business has prevented me from giving you as early a notice of our agricultural exhibition as I had designed, and now when I reflect, it seems superfluous to do so at all.

The Society met on Thursday, the 3d of October, at Corunna. The day dawned beautifully, and continued fine throughout. As a happy consequence, the exhibition was well attended by all classes of our population, and a pleasing interest was manifested by each.

The show of animals and products, though affording manifestations of a society in its earliest growth, exceeded general expectations, as to number and variety. The exhibition of high grade, or full blood animals, was somewhat meagre; those of mixed, tolerable; while those of improved blood was comparatively full. Among the first, a small flock of sheep, of the Paular merino blood, attracted much attention, evincing an inclination to raise more wool, in lieu of such ruinous quantities of wheat.

The exhibition of dairy, horticultural, and manufactured products, were such as to excite a hope that these departments of profitable industry may receive a still larger amount of successful attention.

In the horticultural department, a couple of mammoth squashes, one of which weighed 111½ lbs., excited some lofty ideas and expressions.

The show of ladies' handiwork was quite satisfactory, evincing, as usual, much taste and skill.

Field crops were not very fully represented.—An acre of corn, producing 64 bushels of shelled grain, raised at an estimated cost of \$10, was considered a fair yield, and drew a premium.—Premiums were awarded on other grains, also on horses, cattle, sheep, implements, horticultural and dairy products, &c.

The address, by the President, was eminently pertinent and practical, the concluding remark of which, in answer to the query, "Is he a good farmer?" may, perhaps, be borne in mind, with profit by many of our farmers. "Show me," said he, "his carts and his yokes, his gates and his bars, and then I will tell you."

SHIAWASSEE.

Educational Department.

For the Michigan Farmer.

SCHOOL TEACHING AS A PROFESSION.

Mr. Isham :

It cannot have escaped the notice of the most careless observer, that the employment of persons as teachers, who resort to teaching as a mere casual employment, is the great cause of the generally low character of our common schools.

The most essential want of our day in connection with the subject of Education, is a body of professional Teachers, and until this want is satisfied, it is in vain to hope our school system will attain any considerable degree of perfection.

If an apprenticeship be necessary for the joiner, the mason, and the barber, if a long course of professional study is deemed essential to the lawyer, the clergyman and the physician, surely, the man whose office it is to cultivate the mind, and in due proportion to stimulate and exercise the intellectual and moral powers of youth and childhood, should not approach his task without careful preparation, and should bring to the work the fruits not only of study but of experience. We should be unwilling to trust the building of a house or the making of a coat, to any but a practical artisan. The least important law suit requires in our judgment, the aid of a lawyer, but we are willing to entrust the education of our children, the moulding of their immortal minds and hearts, the power of making broad and deep impressions upon their character, to persons who, without experience are ready for a pultry pittance, and as a means of temporary support, to assume the important duties and solemn responsibilities of Teachers of youth.

In every thing else we are willing to pay for skill and fitness, but in this, the most important of all, we are guilty of a pitiful economy, and are unwilling to pay for the services of a body of men who shall devote themselves to this noble employment, that remuneration, which the same talents and requirements command in other pursuits.

In most of our school districts, teachers are employed by the month for only a portion of the year, generally the winter, and then are turned adrift to seek other occupations. The result is, that professional teachers cannot be sustained, and we have in their stead a class of men, neither qualified by education, experience or moral character, to teach the children of our state. This is a most vitiated system, and is contrary alike to all true economy and common sense.

Schools should be kept up the year round with appropriate vacations, and the teacher's employ-

ment should have that permanence which alone can make it respectable.

The progress of sound views, with regard to the subject of Education in our own State, during the last few years, has been very great, and it is gratifying to know that our School system has been administered with greatly increased efficiency. It is important, however, for us to understand, that in this whole matter of educating the people, great advances are yet to be made.

Our progress in this respect should keep pace with the movements of the Age, and the development of our free institutions. But few minds yet comprehend the extent and scope of this subject, or realize what it is to educate the children of a free people into a fitness to perform the solemn duties, and meet the weighty responsibilities of Freemen.

Man lives in his intellect and his heart—all human institutions are but the developments of these in outward forms. On these education holds a supreme sway, and in moulding the intellectual and moral character of a people, it shapes that people's destiny.

How important then that the education of youth be entrusted to fit hands, and that the mission of the teacher be properly appreciated.

In many of our towns and villages, the importance of employing teachers of a high order of qualifications, is recognized and acted upon, but on this point, public opinion is yet behind the wants of the age, and needs broader views, and a higher direction.

The establishment of our State Normal School cannot but have a most auspicious result. To this institution we may look for a body of teachers, who will elevate the character of their office and exercise a most salutary influence upon public opinion.

There has been no more important and interesting event in the history of Michigan, than this recognition by its Legislature, of the high character of the teacher's office, by making public provision for furnishing to our schools well educated and well prepared instructors.

This institution, if wisely conducted, will do more to promote the permanent posterity of our State, than would the acquisition of California with its mines of gold.

Man is the creature of Education. Physically, Mentally and Intellectually, he is moulded by a process of instruction, which is going on from the cradle.

The influences of home, of political and religious institutions, of social customs and associations, all tell with prodigious effect, upon his character. But none of these are more effective than the School, and we shall never make that what it should be, until we recognize the truth, that the office of the teacher bears the closest analogy to that of the parent and religious instructor.

S. B.

Ladies' Department.

☞ What has become of all our female correspondents?

LOVE OF THE BEAUTIFUL.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Mr. Isham:

Sir: Being highly entertained, as well as interested and instructed, in perusing your excellent periodical, and being fond of meditation, if you please, I will think aloud, and should you think these simple thoughts unworthy a place, you are at liberty to commit them to the flames.

THINGS THAT I LOVE.

I love an excursion at the twilight of morn, when night's sable curtain recedes from view, and Aurora comes forth in all her colors of gold. With what extatic delight do I gaze upon the Eastern horizon, all radiant with the glorious beauties of the rising sun, reappearing to deck the earth with its splendor, while Nature seems listening to the melody of the lovely songsters that fill the air with their music, until the golden tints of morn are lost in the azure hue!

I love to sit by my open window at the noon-tide of a summer day, where I can view the rich golden harvest, with bowed head, as if in grateful reverence, and contrast the lowly green-waving mead with the lofty, glossy, wide-leaved corn, each contributing their beauties and useful properties for the enjoyment of mankind.

I love to ramble through pleasant groves at the close of day, and follow the limpid streamlet, purling in its winding way, while the crescent Luna pours her silver rays through the parting foliage, upon the bright bubbles of the rippling rill with the beauties of earth (flowers) decorating its banks, and distilling their fragrance through the air. How deeply sublime the thought to compare these short-lived beauties with those that shine with an immortal lustre, where the chrystal streams ever flow, and where their banks are ever green with immortal verdure, and where celestial fruits are plucked from life's fair tree.

I love, more than all, the REDEEMER that purchased an inheritance for me in that celestial country; and much do I anticipate the enjoyment thereof.

ELIZABETH.

P.S.—In addition to morning, noon, and evening beauties, I would like to have added the still, solemn beauties of the midnight hour, but fear I have already said more than is acceptable. Many thanks for the ladies department; the same to J... for her caution against bye-words. I think them nearly as vulgar as profane language, a subject, if it would not be out of place, upon

which I have thought of making a few remarks if a more able hand will not do so.*

Homer, Nov. 29, 1850.

* Write, by all means.—ED.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Mr. Isham:

I will send you an extract of a letter (which I am permitted to make,) written by a young lady in this State, to friend at the east: B. W.

"We have the means of conversing with some of the most intelligent and worthy ladies in the State—I mean through the columns of the 'Michigan Farmer.' This is an excellent monthly paper, containing 32 pages of about 800 words each, printed in neat, plain style, and edited by Warren Isham, of Detroit—an able and intelligent person; it is divided into several departments, viz: Agricultural, Educational, Ladies' and Horticultural, besides many other useful and important items, and in fact it would seem that no farmer in the United States should be without it; and no lady, who reads it, would dispense with the Ladies' Department for twice what the whole paper costs. There are now thousands upon thousands of subscribers to it, and its circulation is constantly extending to every part of the Union. The price is only One Dollar per year, and your father can obtain it by writing to Warren Isham, Ed. M. F., Detroit Mich., and enclosing \$1; and should he do so, I am sure he would never regret it—neither would you, even though he were to send the dollar which would otherwise have gone to purchase for you a dress.

* * * I should be glad to see, in this most excellent paper, some communication from you and from your father. Write, and let us know something of your method of house-keeping, or some other business, or your opinion on the education of females, or their choice of society, or some other important subject."

SCOURING FLOORS.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Mr. Isham:

I have an excellent method of cleaning floors, which might perhaps be useful to some of your readers. Take common scouring-rushes and sew them together, by running a darning-needle and thread through them successively, until you have enough on to form a mat about 4 inches wide, then run them through, back and forth at a distance of about an inch, until you get it long enough, say about 6 or 7 inches long, then take a piece of plank or board about 3½ inches wide, and 5 or 6 inches long and 1 or 1½ thick, to which fasten the mat by placing it on the under side of the wood, and drawing a thread over the top from loop to loop. This I think is much better than a brush, when one side of the mat is worn out, it may be taken off and turned. A.

MICHIGAN FARMER.

DETROIT, DECEMBER, 1850.

NOTES BY THE WAY—NO. 83.

BY THE EDITOR.

A little to the north-west (we should think) of Dexter, are the fine farms of the Arnolds, and Messrs. Rogers and Jeffries. The soil of these farms, as well as that of Judge Dexter is excellent, being composed of a sandy and gravelly loam, with a clay subsoil, the surface soil on the former being rendered more tenacious and productive by turning up the clay of the subsoil by deep plowing.

Reclaiming Wet Lands.—Upon the farm of Messrs. Rogers & Jeffries, is a marsh which has been drained, and upon six acres of it they have raised, this season, as fine a crop of common white turnips as we have seen. From one of the lightest acres of the six they gathered five hundred bushels.

The sod was turned over in May last, and the turnips sown at the usual time. Whether a cultivator or harrow was used in the process, we did not learn. The breaking was done with a heavy breaking-up plow, drawn by three yoke of oxen and a pair of horses. Mr. R. remarked, that it was necessary to have the plow-irons very sharp, and that nothing could be done with a common plow.

This will doubtless be some of the most productive land upon the farm, for arable purposes, and adapted to almost any crop except wheat. It is certainly greatly to be deplored that so little has been done to reclaim the marshes which abound so much in many portions of our State. To the first settlers of the country they were of great benefit, but in our present state of advancement we regard them as great nuisances, to say nothing of the deformity they occasion. They yield but little, compared with what they did before being overrun with cattle in the spring, and that little, in our humble opinion, is the occasion of more absolute loss to the owner, every year, than it would sell for before being fed. If any one doubts this, we will engage to give the figures and throw in, besides, the losses by miring.

And then how greatly would it contribute to the health of the country, to have lands reclaimed and made dry. How ridiculous the notion

which some have, that marshes have no tendency to make the country unhealthy! But, ridiculous as it is, it is stoutly maintained by most persons living in the vicinity of them. They will often point to persons living at a considerable distance from them, and say they have been no more liable to sickness than those persons, not considering that the effluvia which rises from a marsh, a great portion of it, ascends and is carried over their heads, and borne upon the breeze, miles, and miles, and miles away, and is just as virulent in its action at that distance, as when it started.

Just consider that one location is rendered more unhealthy than another, only by means of evaporation. But there can be no evaporation where there is no moisture. Of course, then, the more water is evaporated from a given surface, the greater the amount of noxious effluvia which goes off with it. A child can understand this.—Of course, drainage is a remedy.

Beds of Shell Marl.—Upon one portion of the marsh above spoken of, is a bed of shell marl, which is spread over several acres, underlying the muck. The same bed extends over quite a number of acres upon Mr. Arnold's farm, into which the marsh projects, and Mr. A. remarked that marl beds of the kind were very common in the marshes throughout the whole region, and said there were twenty acres of it upon Judge Dexter's farm.

The appearance of the marl, which is thrown out of the ditches, is very similar to that of ashes, and consists mostly of lime. It will some day come largely into requisition for manure. Indeed it is the very thing now needed to put vitality into our more exhausted wheat lands, and there appears to be enough of it in our marshes to manure all the intervening opening uplands.—Mr. A. remarked to us, that Walter S. Wright, Esq., of Adrian, had made use of it as a manure, to a considerable extent, with the happiest effect, upon all kinds of crops.

Where did they come from?—The marl of which these beds are composed, is called *shell marl*, from the fact that it is full of minute fragments of shells, it evidently having resulted from their decomposition. Oyster and clam shells are frequently burned, for lime.

But where did they come from? Manifestly they were deposited through the action of water, and this is but one among the many evidences that this peninsula was once submerged in water.

By no other hypothesis can the existence of these beds be accounted for.

To kill worms among corn.—Mr. Arnold referred to an article in the Farmer, inquiring for a remedy for worms which destroy corn upon sod ground, in the early stage of its growth, and said that a tablespoonful of ashes to a hill was a never-failing one. He had tried it in a great many instances, and always it effectually destroyed them at once, both the wire worm and the common black worm. We conclude that the ashes used should be unleached.

He remarked, that the sod should always be turned under in the spring, but a few days before planting, and said it would rot much sooner than to turn it under in the fall. We said to him that that was true in respect to such soil as his, but that it was far better to turn under stiff clay sod in the fall, as the action of frost had the effect to pulverize it, and make it mellow. That might very truly be so, he replied, as he could only speak in reference to soils like his, which was a sandy, gravelly loam.

To destroy timothy among wheat.—Mr. A. said that much had been said about the best way to prevent timothy from growing among wheat.—His method was to turn it under immediately after harvest, ten inches deep, and he had never had any trouble from it, among his wheat. If we recollect, we gathered up something of the same sort from one of the Gages, in Cass county, which appeared in our Oct. No. Gen. Williams, of Lima, an adjoining town, has another method, which is, to sow plaster upon his wheat, thus giving it such a start that it overgrows the timothy and keeps it down, so that it never does any injury to the wheat.

Deep Plowing.—Both Messrs. Rogers and Jeffreys, and the Messrs. Arnold, are in the habit of plowing deep, so as to turn up more or less of the subsoil, greatly to the benefit of their crops. Mr. A. remarked, that in plowing new land he would like to go about six inches deep, and at each plowing afterwards go about one inch deeper, until he had gone as deep as he could go.

Plaster on wheat—Agricultural education.—Gen. Williams, of Lima, who, by the way, is one of the best farmers in the region, has great faith in the effect of plaster upon wheat, as the result of numerous experiments he has made. He thinks the application of plaster gives him an increase of four or five bushels to the acre. The quantity to the acre, he said,

should not exceed one peck. If more was used, he said, it would increase the growth of the straw, at the expense of the yield of berry. We replied that the quantity required must depend upon the character of the soil, and that some soils might be in a condition to require double, and even treble that quantity, and some none at all. Very true, he replied and there is where we, who are now upon the stage, are deficient, and we can never hope to become so far initiated into the mysteries of chemical discovery as to be able to analyze our soils, and ascertain in what particular elements they are deficient. But, he continued, with increasing animation, though I shall never be so happy as to be thus highly favored, *my son will*. We must have schools and colleges for the purpose, and our sons must be educated to their business, and then they can prosecute it to advantage, and not till then. Similar remarks were made by Mr. Rogers, to whom reference is made above.


Since this conversation with Gen. Williams, we have met with Mr. Glenn, who lives ten miles northwest of Dexter, and received from him a similar account of the beneficial effects of plaster upon wheat, and his statement goes to confirm the remarks we made to Gen. W. in regard to the quantity required being more or less, according to the condition of the soil, for he said that, in order to the best effect, from half a bushel to three pecks should be applied.—He has a field on a part of which plaster has been applied, this season, and the other part not, and the difference between the two parts, he said, was truly wonderful, the plastered portion being rank, broad-leaved, and dark colored, while the unplastered portion was spindling, narrow-leaved and yellow. Mr. G. appears to be a proficient in his business, for he spoke of the signal advantages he derived from deep plowing, such as security from drouth, increase of crops, &c.

Loss of the clover crop.—Both Gen. Williams and his neighbor, Mr. Davis, spoke of having lost their clover crop, (sown in the spring,) the present season, from the effects of drouth. The former lost, we think he said, a hundred acres.

This has been a common calamity to farmers, and has discouraged many in their attempts to get into a system of clovering. To remedy this evil, the farmers in Cass Co., as we stated in our last No., are getting into the habit of sowing their clover seed upon stubble, after the wheat crop is removed, and dragging it in, it being at a season

of the furrow, which can be done almost instantly, not more time being consumed in the operation than the team requires for rest. The root may thus be cut so low as to be out of the way in all time to come, and but little time is wasted.


When we were in Cass Co., recently, Mr. Gage was recommending the same method as superior to all others, he probably never having seen our recommendation of it in the Farmer, being a recent subscriber.

 *Remember*, that we have pledged ourselves to attend the World's Fair, and visit the continent of Europe, for the special benefit of our subscribers, *provided*, they do what we know they *can*, and think they *will*, in extending our subscription list, for the next volume commencing with the next No. and sending us the pay.

To delinquent subscribers.—If our delinquent subscribers wish us to succeed in the effort we are making to regenerate the agriculture of the West, if they desire us to attend the World's Fair, visit the continent of Europe, and give them "Notes by the Way" from England, Scotland, France, Holland, Belgium, Germany, &c., &c., they must send us their arrearages, with pay in advance for the next volume. Let us see how many of them wish us a happy New-Year.

To correspondents.—Our correspondents have grown into an exceeding great army, and their fame has gone out thro' all the land. But some of the highly valued ones have not made their appearance in the Farmer for a month or two, and some longer. Why is this?

We want them all to send us something for our January No. and to send it as early in the month of December as possible, as we wish to issue the first No. of the next volume, as soon after the middle of December, as possible. Shall we hear from you, one and all, and that in due season?

 By the special request of a great many of our subscribers, we shall give in our January No. our Essay on Wheat-growing, which took the premium at the late State Fair. As it embodies principles and facts which, legitimately carried out, would usher in a new era in the agriculture of the West, and give a new value to the labor of the farmer, we are anxious that it should be generally read, and to this end we hope for a very large increase of subscribers on the first of January, thro' the efforts of the friends of the great cause of agricultural improvement.

To our Poetical friends.—We have quite a number of pieces of poetry on hand, sent to us for publication, which we are obliged to exclude, some of them not being in correspondence with the design of our paper, and all of them falling short of the high standard of merit, which would entitle them to an insertion, although *some* of them are nearly as good as *some* we have already published.

Communications on Chess.—We still continue to receive a great many communications on the subject of the transmutation of wheat to chess, nearly all of them in support of the doctrine, and many of them narrating very striking and apparently incontestible facts. But we pray our friends to hold up, as we can find no room for such an interminable controversy,

Great Calf.—G. W. Howe, Esq., of this city, has a heifer calf, of his own raising, nine months old, $\frac{1}{4}$ Devon, $\frac{1}{4}$ Durham, and the other half native, which weighs 610 lbs.—quite a calf.

MISTAKES OF A GREAT MANY FARMERS.

A very general excuse among farmers for neglecting the improvement of their lands, is that they have not the necessary capital. But how is it when they come in possession of capital, as they sometimes do? Do they generally expend it in improving their lands and increasing their productive power? Rarely indeed, is this done. Far oftener, and indeed almost always, it is expended in extending their already too extensive domains, thus making it still more impossible for them to farm it to advantage.

And how greatly do they mistake their own interests! The impression seems to be, that capital expended in improving their lands, is in a great measure sunk; at least that there will be nothing in a long time to show for it, and never anything which would at all compare with the outspread acres stretching themselves away beneath the eye which it will procure.

But let us see—what is the object in expending capital? Is it not to get returns from it? And is not that capital best laid out which produces the greatest returns—which yields the largest interest, in proportion to the amount expended? Whether you expend your capital in purchasing more land, or improving that which you already possess, you put it out at interest. And which of the two investments, think you, will yield the largest returns?

How large a percentage does capital vested in in lands, to be used for farming purposes, yield? How much has it yielded in Michigan? With rare exceptions, absolutely nothing. Even those who in days gone by, have passed for good and successful farmers, have not cleared four per cent on the money invested? And the more they

have extended the area of their farms, invariably have their returns been proportionably less.

Now suppose the capital expended in the purchase of these additional acres, had been expended in improving those already in possession; suppose this improvement had doubled their productive power, as it could not fail to do, if judiciously applied—what sort of returns would you get then? Suppose the additional acres would cost you ten dollars each, and instead thereof, that amount had been expended in doubling the productive power of the same number of acres already in your possession. Not that such an outlay would be required to accomplish the result, for there is a way of accomplishing it in most cases with a fourth part that expenditure, but we indulge in the supposition for the sake of the illustration it gives us. Suppose then, that ten dollars per acre be required to accomplish such a result—do you not see that in no way possible could it be laid out to so great advantage? Just consider, that the one-half of your crop which has been added, is clear gain, after deducting the interest on the ten dollars, and the value of the additional labor it has imposed upon you. Reckoning the interest on the outlay in the improvement, at seven per cent. and the value of the additional labor at one dollar and thirty cents per acre, the amount to be deducted, would be two dollars per acre. But it must be a miserable crop, even with the miserable farming we too often see, and the miserable condition our farming lands are generally in, which will not sell for five dollars to the acre in the market, and even that will hardly pay expenses. At a moderate calculation then, the one-half you have added to your crop, is worth five dollars, from which deduct two dollars for interest on the ten dollars to the acre expended for the additional labor required, and you have a clear profit left of three dollars per acre. Or in other words, you have received thirty per cent. interest on your investment.

Is there any fallacy in this? Is it not as plain as figures can make it? But if this be so, in what a striking light does it show the infatuation of those farmers, whose misguided ambition leads them to expend every dollar they can raise, and oftentimes to involve themselves deeply in debt, in the enlargement and multiplication of their farms, to the neglect of the improvement of the land already in their possession.

Let our farmers but learn their own true interests—let them but avail themselves of the advantages they thus possess, for expending their capital and labor (and labor is capital,) and they need not covet the profits of the business man, nor envy his respectability, for, without his risks, his anxiety and his cares, they will have greater profits than his, in proportion to the capital expended, and the intelligence and skill which would lead them to the adoption of such a course, would place them high up in the scale of respectability.

We have been lead to the utterance of the fore-

going remarks from having everywhere witnessed in our travels, the woful consequences of the mistaken policy of a great many of our farmers, in multiplying the number of their acres, to the neglect of those already in possession.

For the Michigan Farmer.

FACTS FOR THE CURIOUS.

Friend Isham:

Reading, a few days since, in the "Genesee Farmer," a curious case of transmutation in corn, I have concluded to give your readers (in case this is published) a case that came under my observation, of transmutation in the potato:

A few years since, while planting potatoes, I came across an "old potato," as they are styled, one that grew two years before. It had lain in the cellar the summer previous, in a dry situation, and from each eye there were one, or two, and in some instances three potatoes, about the size of a marrowfat pea. This potato, with its tiny progeny, was planted, and a stake set up to mark the spot. Well, what of all this? Why, the potato planted was a pink-eye, and those that grew were a red variety. The small ones grew only, and their product was about the size of a walnut. I am positive as to the identity of the "old potato," both from its physiognomy, and the fact that I had no others that season. Is there any principle in vegetable physiology by which this can be explained?

A neighbor had, this season, some 6 or 8 stalks of corn, scattered over six or eight acres, that were 11 or 12 feet in height, and when the frost came they had just shown the tassel. One of these I carried to the State Fair; it was ten feet to the ear, which had just set. The stalk, throughout, was of gigantic proportions, measuring six inches in circumference at the height of ten feet, and having "brace-roots" projecting more than two feet from the ground. These transmuted stalks grew from the common yellow dent. Is it possible that pollen from southern Ohio could have wandered so far, and thus produced this strange result?

R. RANDALL, Jr.

Clinton, Nov. 8th, 1850.

TO MAKE HENS LAY.—The South Carolinian says a neighbor states that hogs lard is the best thing he can find to mix with the dough he gives his hens. He says that one cut of this fat as large as a walnut, will set a hen to laying immediately after she has been broken up from sitting; and that, by feeding them with the fat occasionally, his hens continue laying through the whole winter.

CLEARING TIMBERED LAND.

For the Michigan Farmer.

INGHAM, Nov. 8th, '50.

Mr. Isham:

Sir: For a few months past it has been my privilege to peruse your most valuable monthly periodical, the Michigan Farmer, and I have been much edified thereby. The interesting subject of agriculture is worthy of the notice of the most learned and refined; and we trust the day is not far distant when the Farmer will find its way into the dwellings of a great share of the husbandmen of the west. Let us as faithfully heed its precepts, as do too many the traditions of their fathers, and we may see our farms in a high state of cultivation, covered with luxuriant crops, or with horses, cattle, and sheep, money more plenty, buyers not a few, and times more easy.

I saw an inquiry in one of your numbers, how to clear timbered land easiest. I would say that, from my experience and observation for a few years in the woods, I am fully satisfied that the best way is to slash the timber and under-brush into winrows, some seven or eight rods apart, running north and south, trimming up and throwing in the limbs from all trees which may fall out of said winrow. Let the same remain about two years, and then put in the fire in a dry time, in spring or summer, as suits best, and then one day's work to the acre, chopping, will fit it for logging, and you can log more with the same team and hands in one day, than in one and a half days, of green timber, with less hard lifting, and save at least one dollar and fifty cents per acre. Thoroughly plow before putting in the crop. In this way, little boys, and even girls, can do a great deal to save chopping, by using fire and the scattering sticks on the fallow, to burn logs in two, &c.

But some people prefer doing as their fathers did—chop in winter, clear in spring, set up all night to burn off green timber, consequently sear the roots of the stumps so that they will last well; and they will go scratching their shins and scolding about roots for years longer than they otherwise would.

N.B. Will some one tell me the expense of Wheeler & Melick's Railway Threshing Machines, and if as easy for the horses as circle exercise?*

I enclose two dollars, for the present and anticipated volume of the Farmer, which is to be credited to

R. W. WHIPPLE.

* The price is from \$140 to \$170 for the horse power, thresher, and separator, according as a one or two horse power is required, and \$35 additional for a saw-mill.

We have never heard that these machines were peculiarly hard upon horses, except thro'

a communication published in the Farmer two years ago, by an interested individual, as we afterwards found him to be.—Ed.

MICHIGAN SOD AND SUB-SOIL PLOW AT THE N. Y. STATE FAIR.

The committee on plows at the N. Y. State Fair, make the following remarks in relation to the Michigan Sod and Sub-soil Plow.

MICHIGAN SOD AND SUB-SOIL PLOW.—We have refrained, in the remarks hitherto offered, from making any comments on the plow offered by Messrs. French & Smith, and called by them the Michigan Sod and Sub-soil Plow, because in our opinion it could not be brought into competition with other plows, without great injustice to the proprietors of the latter. In the first place it is properly a *three-horse plow*, while all the others are two-horse plows. Secondly, its *double* character distinguishes it from all others.

We regard this implement as a most useful present from the mechanic to the farmer, and in our opinion its introduction will effect a great improvement in the tillage of some kinds of soil. It pulverizes the soil in an excellent manner, which to be fully appreciated, must be seen; and it accomplishes this pulverization with an amount of power which, in reference to the work performed, is certainly not large. It buries the sod *completely*, and covers it with a coating of loose earth, which makes a seed bed almost as perfectly as a spade.

In other plows tried, there was *one* size of furrow-slice which the plow turned better than any other; if a broader or narrower furrow was taken, the plow would act less perfectly. This was not the case with the "sod and sub-soil" plow; it seemed to perform equally well, whatever was the breadth of the furrow, and this quality we deem a great advantage. We do not wish, however, to be understood as recommending this as a plow adapted to do "all work." Where from peculiar circumstances, it is not desirable to plow deeper than six inches, we cannot recommend this implement; its peculiar pulverizing powers are not fully developed with a furrow shallower than seven inches. Its properties may be given in substance as follows:

1st. It is particularly useful where *trench* plowing is required; that is, where it is wished to bring the sub-soil, or a portion of it to the surface. This is a useful operation where the sub soil abounds with vegetable food in a greater proportion than the surface soil; as on alluvial and other very deep soils, where the upper stratum has been exhausted by cultivation. 2d. It is also exceedingly valuable for ordinary *stiff*, adhesive soils, the greatest defect of which is their tendency to pack too closely. This defect is in a great degree obviated by the manner in which this plow performs its work. It cuts its furrow-slice in two parts, horizontally, by which operation

it makes twice as much division of the soil as is effected by an ordinary plow, when going at the same depth and width, and from the fact that each part is turned over by itself, it falls lightly, and remains in a pulverized state.

In consideration of all the circumstances, we recommend that a premium equal to the first, in amount and in honor, be awarded to this plow for "old land" and "stiff sod" plowing. In view of the results of the trials instituted by us, and detailed above, we recommend the following award of premium:

To FRENCH & SMITH, for their *Michigan Sod and Subsoil Plow*, for plowing on "Old land" and "Stiff sod," Diploma and \$15.00

NEW MODE OF MAKING BUTTER—BOILED BUTTER.

We have no disposition to substitute any other product of the dairy, for the deliciously sweet, aromatic butter, so abundantly furnished by our best dairywomen. But as a substitute greatly preferable, either for luxury, economy, or health, we would exchange the miserably washy stuff, (which is, at first, a tolerable mixture of thick cream and buttermilk, but soon changes to an intolerable mass of rancid grease,) for the boiled butter of Switzerland, according to the subjoined mode of making butter, as given by Dr. Forbes, an intelligent English writer:

Into a clean copper pan, (better, no doubt, tinned,) put any quantity of butter, say from 20 to 40 pounds, and place it over a very gentle fire, so that the butter may melt slowly; and let the heat be so graduated that the melted mass shall "not come to the boil in less than about two hours." During all this time, the butter must be frequently stirred, say once in five or ten minutes, so that the mass may be thoroughly intermixed, and the top and bottom change places from time to time. When the melted mass boils, the fire must be so regulated as to keep the butter at a gentle boil for about two hours more, the stirring being still continued, but not of necessity so frequently as before. The vessel is then to be removed from the fire and set to cool, and settle, still gradually, the process of cooling being supposed to require about two hours. The melted mass is then, while still quite tepid, to be carefully poured into the crock, or jar, in which it is to be kept. In the process of cooling, there is deposited a whitish, cheesy sediment, (proportioned to the quantity of butter,) which is to be carefully prevented from intermixing with the preserved butter.—These nauseous grounds are very palatable and nutrient; they are constantly used as food. As might be expected, there are some variations in the practice of different individuals. One very experienced man assures me that a much shorter time than two hours need elapse between the setting of the vessel on the fire, and the bringing of the butter to the boiling point. Another also said

that the time should bear some relation to the quantity of material used—an average period of ten minutes being allowed for every pound. The same party told me that if the butter employed was not quite sweet, the addition of a slice of bread and a slice of onion (?) will remove this, also the appearance of the grounds rising up to the top when the mass is stirred, is itself a proof that the boiling is sufficient. My guide to Charmouni told me that his wife usually added a small portion of salt to the mass in the early stage of boiling.

Everybody agree in asserting that butter, so preserved, will last for years perfectly good, without any particular precaution being taken to keep it from the air, or without the slightest addition of salt. Indeed, I myself, tasted more than once, butter so prepared, fully twelve months after preparation, and found it without the slightest taint. It wanted the flavor of fresh butter, but seemed to me infinitely more palatable than our coarse, salt butter.—*Am. Agriculturist.*

DESTROYING MILK WEED.

For the Michigan Farmer.

HADLEY, Nov. 11th, '50.


Mr. Isham :

Sir: In the third number of the present volume of the Michigan Farmer, S. Beden, (not P. Beden,) offers a premium "to any person that will inform him how to effectually destroy the milk weed." In the fourth number are three receipts for the above, all of which have, on some grounds in this town, proved ineffectual; on others, some have proved effectual. As for sheeping milk weeds, I would like to know what breed of sheep would eat them, and where such sheep may be found, for the sheep about here will not feed upon them at all.

Another method I have heard recommended, as "sure to kill;" i. e., to keep the leaves and pods stripped off, and leave the stalks standing, which I think preferable, on loose, open, deep soils, to pulling them up; for if pulled up, the root is left to send forth innumerable shoots to supply their place.

I have expected to see something in the Farmer, from S. Beden, on the subject, before this time, as he has milk weeds growing luxuriantly on lands which have, for several years, been used for pasture for sheep, cattle, and hogs, also on meadow and plow land, both in a high state of cultivation, the weeds increasing yearly, and growing from four to five feet high.

Yours, with respect,
W. M. B.

 In speaking of Mr. De Garmo's cow, in connection with the State Fair, we should have said she gave *fifty-six pounds*, instead of fifty-six quarts. She is five-eighths Durham.

Horticultural.

NOTES BY THE WAY.—No. 85.

BY THE EDITOR.

Lusus Natura.—Judge Witherell, of this city, has an apple-tree upon a farm at Grosse Point, whose fruit is entirely destitute of seeds, the whole being one solid mass of flesh. It is a seedling, bears excellent fruit, but always destitute of seeds and core.

He said that Capt. Grant of that neighborhood, told him that he could produce a tree that would bear such fruit, by simply bending down the top, when small, burying it in the earth, letting it remain until it had taken root, and then cutting it in two, and leaving the top part to grow bottom upwards.

Who can explain this phenomenon? Is it an infringement upon nature's laws? If so, who can set it to rights?

Thoughts of the Pioneers about Fruit.—When we were in Cass Co., some weeks since, we were told an anecdote which illustrates the impressions which the early settlers in that region received from the results of their first experiments in the fruit line. Mr. McKinney, of McKinney's prairie, who settled upon the prairie, some thirteen or fourteen years ago, took great pains to put out fruit trees, so as to be supplied with fruit at as early day as possible. But when the time came for the young trees to bear, they refused to do so, or rather the seasons refused to let them. Year after year passed away, and not an apple, nor a peach, nor a plum, nor a cherry, nor even a currant was allowed to grow. But stop, we are too fast: Madame McKinney in deploring their fate, in being "doomed to inhabit a country where no kind of fruit could ever be hoped for, said to a neighbor, that they had done all that mortal man could do to procure fruit upon their farm, and they had become fully satisfied that no kind of fruit tree could be made to bear in Michigan, and they had given up the attempt as hopeless. The nearest they had ever come to it, she said, was, that one year a peach tree had borne a single peach, and it cost it such an effort, that nature gave way, and it up and died the same year. This was said in all seriousness, and in a tone of despair. In passing we were shown the identical orchard, over which these doleful lamentations were poured out, and the trees, now of large size were bending with fruit. Friend Gage said he had often wished the old lady might be permitted to rise out of the grave, just to take a peep at her orchard all loaded with luscious fruit, and himself

standing where he could see the face she would make up, with uplifted arms.

The truth is, that the same disparaging impressions were pretty general throughout Michigan, in the early settlement of the country, and we may say, throughout every new State of the West, in its first stage of improvement. Two causes seem to operate in adapting the country to fruit culture. In the first place, the climate undergoes a modification as it becomes cleared and cultivated, and in the next place, the trees undergo a process of acclimation, and the climate and the trees become thus mutually adapted to each other.

Western Fruit.—Not only has the West proved itself capable of producing fruit, but fruit of the very best quality, far superior to fruit raised in the same latitude East. A gentleman from New Haven, Conn. who had bought from a boy three or four splendid pippins, at one of the depots on the Central Railroad, remarked to us, that it was a real luxury to get hold of a Western apple. The apples in Connecticut, he said, were small, nurlly things, and very seldom could one be found, which was not wormy.

Large Pumpkins, great yield of Squashes.—Rev. M. M. Hunter, of Grosse Isle, raised, the present season, a pumpkin which weighed a hundred and fifty pounds. A single vine produced some six or seven hundred pounds. Some other man was in our office recently (his name we forget) who had the present season, raised six hundred and fifty-two pounds of squashes, upon a single vine.

Special Manures.—Mr. Hunter (spoken of above) has been making experiments with special manures upon his garden vegetables. Of the mineral elements which enter into the composition of the beet, soda is the chief, constituting indeed we think, more than half. He procured the soda and the other elements (at the drug shop we suppose,) composted them together in a proportion as nearly to correspond with the results of analysis as he could without weighing, making sure of a good proportion of soda, and deposited them in the hole. The beet came up and grew luxuriantly, and attained an enormous size, but when cooked, it tasted almost like the clear soda itself.

We have on a former occasion, given an instance where the application of ashes to the root of an apple tree, (being mixed with clay in stiff mortar, and pounded down,) had the effect to reduce the acidity of the fruit so as to make it appear to belong to an entirely different variety.

That the time will come when the food of plants can be prepared with as direct a reference to their wants, as the food of animals is with reference to theirs, we have little doubt. In the above instance, Mr. H. not being particular to weigh the materials of his compost, probably got into it too

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large a proportion of soda, and then did not dilute it sufficiently by admixture with the soil, the dose being too strong for digestion.

Philosophy of setting trees apart.—Who does not know, that fruit trees grow better, and bear better to be set at such distances that their limbs will not interfere with each other, than to stand so close that their tops will interlace? And why is it? Is it because they make too heavy a draft upon the soil? That may be one reason, in some instances, but not the principal one. The great reason is, that the free circulation of air is thus interrupted. It is a well ascertained fact, that the great bulk of all vegetables, comes from the gasses of the atmosphere, particularly carbonic acid, absorbed by the leaves. Hence, if trees stand so thick as to prevent the free circulation of air, this source of nutriment is, to a great extent, cut off, and of course the tree and the fruit must be affected by it; and such is found to be the fact. We have been led to these remarks from having seen, in our travels some orchards so thickly set that there will be but little chance for the circulation of air between the trees, when they have had the advantage of a few years more growth.

For the Michigan Farmer.

ADVANTAGES OF HAVING ABUNDANCE OF GOOD FRUIT, TO INDIVIDUALS AND THE COUNTRY.

Mr. Editor:

Under this head I would observe, that no branch of husbandry can be made more profitable than the orchard, more especially when situated near a market, or near water communication; but even where these adjuncts are absent, it is still profitable on a smaller scale; and as regards the pleasure, who, that have ever seen the tempting array of fine fruits at horticultural exhibitions, or elsewhere, have not felt how happy they would be to have them at their command; but in general they have thought it to be a thing unattainable, requiring far more ground and money than they had to spare, and have therefore given up the thought of obtaining them for themselves as being out of the question in their circumstances. If they had known how easily and cheaply they could have procured the best fruits for themselves, besides having probably as much surplus to dispose of as would pay ample interest on all their cost and trouble, leaving what they used as clear gain, they would have endeavored to plant trees for themselves, instead of depending upon a precarious supply of inferior fruits, from the market. And even in case of their having to sell their property afterwards, would it not be far better and more easily disposed of with fine fruit trees on it, than without?

In sections of the country where the more delicate kinds of fruits do not succeed, the cost of a succession of suitable fruits would be less, if larger quantities of the varieties that suited the climate, could be planted. In from three to five

years from the time of planting, the greater part of these fruits would be in full bearing, and the owners would have a supply of fruit such as they never dreamt of, for a cost of not more than from ten to fifteen shillings a year, the price that a single barrel of apples would cost them.

PROFITS.

Those who have only planted the inferior kinds of fruits, and have given them no after culture, cannot estimate the profit to be obtained by planting the best kinds, and giving them judicious and high cultivation afterwards.

Says Thomas' Fruit Culturist:

"Examples almost beyond number may be given, where single trees have yielded from five to ten dollars a year in fruit, and many instances where twenty or thirty dollars have been obtained. An acre of such would be equal to any of the preceding instances. If one tree of the Rhode Island Greening will afford forty bushels of fruit, at a quarter of a dollar per bushel, which has often occurred, forty such trees on an acre would yield a crop worth four hundred dollars. But taking but one quarter of this amount as a low average for all seasons, and with imperfect cultivation, one hundred dollars would still be equal to the interest on fifteen hundred per acre. Now, this estimate is based upon the price of good winter apples for the past thirty years, in our most productive districts; let a similar calculation be made with fruits rarer and of a more delicious character. Apricots, and the finer varieties of the plum, are often sold for three to six dollars per bushel; the best early peaches, from one to three dollars; and pears, from hardy and productive trees, for an equal amount. Of three former kinds, two to five bushels per tree, with good management, is a frequent crop; and on large pear trees five times this quantity. An acquaintance received eight dollars for a crop grown on two fine young cherry trees, and twenty-four dollars from four young peach trees, of only six years' growth from the bud. In western New York, single trees of the Doyenne or Virgalieu year, have often afforded a return of twenty dollars or more, after being sent hundreds of miles to market. An acre of such trees, well managed, would far exceed in profit a fine hundred acre farm.

"But the anxious inquiry is suggested, 'Will not our markets be surfeited with fruit?' This will depend upon the judgment and discretion of cultivators. With the exception of the peaches of Philadelphia, and the strawberries of Cincinnati, a great deficiency is still felt in all our large cities. Of these two fruits, large plantations are brought rapidly into full bearing. The fruit, when ripe, quickly perishes, and cannot be kept a week; yet thousands of acres in peach trees, bending under their heavy crops, are needed for the consumption of the one city, and broad, fifty-acre fields, reddened with enormous products send many hundred bushels of strawberries daily into the other. If, instead of keeping but three

days, sorts were now added which would keep three months, many times the amount would be needed. But the market would not be confined to large cities. Railroads and steamboats would open new channels of distribution throughout the country, for increased supplies. Nor would the business stop here. Large portions of the eastern continent would gladly become purchasers, as soon as sufficient quantities should create facilities for a reasonable supply. Our best apples are already eagerly bought in London and Liverpool, where nine dollars per barrel is not an unusual price for the best Newtown pippins. And by packing in ice, Doyenne pears, gathered early in autumn, in New York, have been sold at mid-winter in Calcutta—peaches have been safely sent to Jamaica, and strawberries to Barbadoes. The Baldwin apple has been furnished in good condition in the East Indies, two months after it is entirely gone in Boston.

"Good winter apples always command a market. For the past thirty years, such fine varieties as the Swaar, Rhode Island Greening, and Esopus Spitzenburgh, have scarcely varied from twenty-five cents a bushel in some of the most productive portions of country, remote from market. Late keepers are sold early in the spring for more than triple that sum. An acre of forty trees, with good culture, will average through all seasons not less than two hundred bushels, or fifty dollars a year. Instances are frequent of thrice this amount. The farmer, then, who sets out twenty acres of good apple orchard, and takes care of it, may expect, at no remote period, a return of five to fifteen hundred dollars a year, and even more, if a considerable portion is occupied with late keepers. This is, it is true, much more than the majority obtain; but the majority wholly neglect cultivating and enriching the soils of their orchards.

"It is not, however, merely as a source of income, that the cultivation of the finer kinds becomes profitable. The family which is at all times supplied with delicious and refreshing fruit from its own gardens, has within its reach not only a very important means of economy, but of real domestic comfort. An influence is thus introduced of an exalted character; a tendency is directly exerted toward the improvement of the manners of the people. Every addition to the attractions of home, has a salutary bearing on a rising family of children. The difference between a dwelling with well planted grounds, and well furnished with every rural enjoyment, and another where scarcely a single fruit tree softens the face of bleakness and desolation, may, in many instances, and to many a young man just approaching active life, serve as the guiding influence between a useful life on the one hand, or a roving and unprofitable one on the other—between a life of virtue and refinement from early and favorable influences, or one of dissipation and ruin from the over-balancing effects of a repulsive home. Nor can any man, even in noon or approach-

ing evening of life, scarce fail to enjoy a higher happiness, with at least an occasional intercourse with the blossoming and loaded trees which his own hand has planted and pruned, than in the noise of the crowd and tumult of the busy world."

As regards my own experience, I have found no difficulty in disposing of my peaches and plums at from ten to fifteen shillings per bushel, while plenty of these fruits were in the same market, but of common quality, selling with difficulty at from two shillings and sixpence to five shillings per bushel. The best varieties will bear as much, and often much more than the inferior, while the cost of culture is the same; and the cost of gathering, owing to the larger size, is much less.

JAMES DOUGALL.

Rosebank Nursery, Amherstburgh, Canada.
(To be continued.)

CORN STALKS FOR FODDER.

For the Michigan Farmer.

SHIAWASSEE, Nov. 3d. 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Permit me to inform your readers that a neighbor of mine sowed a quantity of corn broadcast, last spring, for the purpose of making fodder which, produced well, but the deuce was, he said, how to cut and cure it. To cut and set it all up by handfull, he considered rather a tedious operation, and upon mature reflection, as he said, he concluded to experiment. Whereupon, seizing a strong cradle, (turkey-wing,) he went at it, without coat or mittens; (I am telling the story in his own style,) and threw it into swaths, with nearly the same amount of ease and exertion required in cradling tall, heavy grain.

Having in this manner cut it down, he let it remain in the swath until it was pretty thoroughly wilted, when he raked it into small bundles, another hand following with a bundle of straw, binding it up. He then set it up in bunches, or stooks, as large as could be conveniently bound at the top, by breaking the top of the bunch over with his arm, and binding it down. It remained in the bunch until a few days ago, when he drew it off and stacked it, it being cured in fine style.

This appears to me to be an improvement upon all the ways I "have heard tell on" of securing this kind of fodder; and I note it down for the benefit of those who wish to avail themselves of my neighbor's experience.

SHIAWASSEE.

Western Horticultural Review.—This is the title of a well got up, ably conducted monthly, of fifty-two pages, published at Cincinnati, at three dollars per annum, in advance, John A. Warder, M. D., editor—designed for, and well adapted to the West, and should receive its hearty support.

OLD TIMES...A PILL FOR ANTI-BOOK FARMERS...A VALUABLE IMPROVEMENT.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Mr. Isham: Dear Sir: As it appears you are somewhat desirous that those who are subscribers to your paper should also become contributors to its pages, I had thought to throw in my mite, taking for my motto an ancient saying: "Make the best you can of a bad bargain," or, in other words, learn to profit by your own mistakes.

When a lad, I had a strong predilection to learn the shoemaking trade. My father, who died in my childhood, and my grandfather and uncle, with whom I then lived, were shoemakers, altho' neither served a regular apprenticeship for the same, and worked at the business but a part of the time. The matter was agreed upon, and I was to learn the trade of my uncle. Before I had worked many winters, he was unable to give me farther instruction; what was to be done, now? Was I to be satisfied with my present attainments of the knowledge of my business, as multitudes of farmers appear to be now-a-days, when they can say, "Why, we understand our business as well as our father or grandfather before us, or any of our immediate neighbors—is not that sufficient?" It was not, for me. It was soon said that S. W. makes the genteelst boots and shoes of any one in town. Did this satisfy my mind? By no means; although it brought to our shop a fair share of the best custom in the town, and some from others—gratified my uncle and pleased my ambition, yet I was not satisfied. I saw, occasionally, work that was done in cities, beyond my best, as far as 100 bushels of corn to the acre would exceed 50 bushels, or 50 bushels of wheat per acre would exceed 25. Had I then enjoyed the same privileges which the young farmer now enjoys, or may if he will, to have the experience of the best and most prosperous of his craft continually before him, how gladly should I have availed myself of it; but no such thing for me. I was thrown on my own resources. I will here say, and perhaps it will be new to many, that the method of making shoes and boots in those days, was very different from the present; putting bottoms to boots and shoes by pegging, was entirely unknown, but it was done by sewing, altogether; the form and shape of the work then differed from the present, as much as the mode of putting it together. Instead of the wide or broad toe of modern times, the toe was sharp—the sharper the better, and it extended about as far beyond the foot as the dandy's fine boot does at present; but to make a lady's turned pump, or a gentleman's calfskin shoe or boot, true and sharp, O, how nice! One may readily conjecture the pitiable fix poor mastiffs were in, when the ladies and gentlemen became somewhat cross-grained in their feelings.

I had to depend altogether on experiment and practice; when I made a mistake, (which was not

very unfrequent) I endeavored to profit by it, and look out for next time. The mode of cutting boots was very different from the present—the legs were cut from one piece of leather, and the foot, or vamp, from another, and sewed into the legs with a tongue, which rested upon the shin. The legs were prepared when the skin was dressed, and drawn or tucked in the ankle from two to six inches; so when the boot was drawn on, the leather would stretch to its natural width, and then shrink back again to the ankle, so that it would set to a man's leg like a seamed stocking.

About this time, there came along a new fashion for boots, called the Suarrow, taking the name from the great Russian general, who, it was said, wore such when Bonaparte invaded Moscow.—These were cut in the same mode as boots are now, with only this difference: they came considerably above the knee, then were wrinkled down. I had the honor, as it was called, of making the first pair in town, and all of that description for a considerable length of time. This gave me abundance of room to profit by mistakes.

To cut short, (and that I ought to have thought of before,) after setting up my business in the town where I had learned my trade, and working at it a few years, I commenced tanning on a small scale. In the fall, the time of dressing leather, after my upper leather and skins were oiled and dried, I found one skin belonging to a customer whom I greatly wished to please, was not sufficiently tanned, and what to do I knew not. On the whole, I concluded to soak it and lay it away in bark again, and when I came to dress leather the next season, I found that skin finished far smoother than any other skin I had, and when it was made into boots, a person might wade all day in snow-broth, and have dry feet at night. From this mistake I learned to make water-proof leather, although I used to vary some from my first experiment. When I wished to make leather of that description, I would let it get fairly struck through with bark, then put it in stuff as if I were going to finish it; after getting completely dry, scraped off the stuff with a stick, then put it into a good lively liquor, and a good layer of bark, and let it be till next spring—then I would have leather that would neither crack nor make wet feet. A common sized side, managed in this way, would weigh one pound more than in the usual way of dressing, and would sell for eight cts. more on a pound. I would rather have one pair of boot uppers of that description, than two pairs of any leather I have found in the State.*

S. WOODRUFF.

Richland, Nov. 2d, 1850.

* This must certainly be a valuable improvement, but we fear that friend W. has not described the process so that it can be understood and adopted. That should be the great end in view in all communications. Perhaps, however, a tanner can understand it.—Ed.

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WHEELER, MELICK, & CO.,
PATENTEES AND MANUFACTURERS OF
Wheeler's Patent Improved Railway Chain
Horse Powers.



OVERSHOT THRESHERS.

With Vibrating Separators; and of other Agricultural Machines.
The undersigned having secured of WHEELER, MELICK & Co., an agency for the sale of their celebrated Machines, are prepared to furnish them at manufacturers' prices.

THE TWO HORSE MACHINE is extensively used, not only by Farmers, but also by persons who make Threshing a business for the season. It is so compact and portable, that the whole Machine is easily loaded on a common two horse wagon; or when to be moved often from place to place, is mounted on wheels, so that two men can get it in order for threshing in a few minutes, and remount it for moving with the same ease. With from 3 to 5 hands it will thresh from 125 to 200 bushels of wheat, or twice the quantity of oats, per day.

THE ONE HORSE MACHINE, attended by two or three men will thresh from 60 to 100 bushels of wheat per day. It may be worked on a small sized barn floor without inconvenience. This Machine has been most used in the Eastern States, where threshing is chiefly done in barns, and in the winter season; but it is also very highly commended by Farmers in the Western States who have used it.

THE ONE HORSE POWER is adapted to various other purposes; such as Driving Circular and Vertical Saws, Feed Cutters, Corn Shellers, Boring Machines, Grind Stones, Pumps, &c.

These Horse Powers, (both One and Two Horse,) are strong and durable, with the gearing simply arranged, and not liable to get out of order, and run extremely light. With a slight elevation, the weight alone of the Horses affords sufficient power to thresh as before stated, or to drive the other Machines before mentioned.

THE OVERSHOT THRESHER is worked more conveniently and with less power than the Undershot or Common Thresher, and not water grain or drive dust towards the workmen.

THE VIBRATING SEPARATOR effectually divides the Grain from the Straw, leaving the former in the best order for cleaning; and when expedition or convenience makes it desirable, a Fanning Mill may be attached to, and driven by the same Horse Power.

CIRCULAR SAW MILL.—This Mill is driven by a One Horse Power, and attended by two men; saws from 10 to 15 cords of wood twice in two, per day.

STALK AND STRAW CUTTER.—This is a most excellent Machine, and is much used. It cuts fine and extremely fast. Stalks are cut by it three-eighths of an inch long, and at the rate of from 300 to 500 sheaves per day, with a One Horse Power.

The foregoing is a brief and fair statement of the qualities and character of our Machines. Probably a larger number of our Powers and Threshers are made and sold than of any other kind. Two of our firm have had 17 years' experience in manufacturing Threshing Machines of various kinds, and are the INVENTORS AND PATENTEES of these Horse Powers. A few were made in 1841 and 1842, which are still good and in use. Since then the demand for them has steadily increased, and we are now prepared to complete 1000 Machines this season. One of our Agents alone, (Mr. H. L. ENKAY, of Albany,) sold nearly 200 Machines as far as during the last year. Hundreds of Letters, Recommendations, and Notices in Agricultural Papers, Premiums at State and County Fairs, and other Testimonials can be shown to confirm our advertising statements; but as all Machines made and sold by us or our agents, are

WARRANTED

not only to perform as stated, but to give satisfaction to the Purchaser.

We deem it unnecessary to give them here. For more detailed information, or for the purpose of ordering Machines, address the subscribers at Detroit.

F. P. PARKER & BRO.

The Executive committee of the Michigan State Agricultural Society, will meet at Detroit, on the 2d Wednesday (the 11th) of the present month. The Presidents and Recording Secretaries of the County Societies should be present.

FIRE! FIRE!! FIRE!!!
EMPIRE STATE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

(CAPITAL \$125,000.)

THIS COMPANY proposes to insure private Dwellings and Farm property against loss or damage by fire, for a cash premium of one half of one per cent for five years.

GEO. YOUNG, JR., Sec'y.

ISAAC FORBES, Pres't.

All communications post-paid, directed to the subscribers at Southfield P. O., Michigan, will be promptly attended to.

A. H. GREEN, Travelling
I W. GREEN, Agents.

Southfield, Dec. 1, 1850.

ATTENTION SOLDIERS!!
AND OLD VOLUNTEERS!

EACH of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers, musicians, or privates, whether Regulars, Rangers, Volunteers, or Militia, or the widow or minor children of those deceased who actually served nine months in the War of 1812, or in any Indian War since 1790, and each of the commissioned officers of the Mexican War, who are entitled to 160 acres of land. Those who actually served four months are entitled to 80 acres. Those who actually served one month are entitled to 40 acres.

I will procure the warrants for such as are entitled, by calling on me or writing to me. Business from a distance promptly attended to. Banking Office next door to the Post Office, Woodward ave., Detroit, Mich.

LETTERS MUST BE POST-PAID. J. J.

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G. F. LEWIS.

CHARLES PIQUETTE,



MANUFACTURER OF

SUPERIOR DIAMOND POINTED
GOLD PENS.

DAMAGED PENS RE-POINTED.

Also, damaged Watches and Jewelry, repaired by a superior workman, and the work warranted
Detroit, August 1, 1850.

J. G. DARBY,

ENGRAVER,

No. 151, Corner Jefferson Avenue and Bates Street,
Detroit, (Third Story.)

MAPS, Visiting and Business Cards, Portraits,
Bills of Exchange, Wood Cuts, &c.

—ALSO—

Door Plates, Silver Ware, &c., elegantly engraved.
Detroit, January 1st, 1850.

WINTER SEASON—1849-50

CLOTHING FOR THE MILLION!

EAGLE & ELLIOTT,

HAVING completed their fall purchase, are

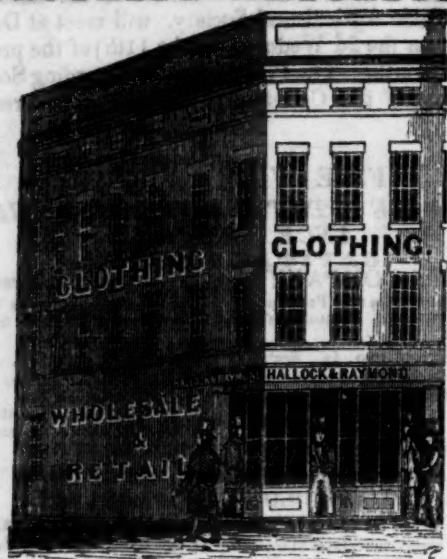
now prepared to offer for sale an extensive and complete assortment, comprising 50,000 garments of every grade, style, quality and size, to be had in the market. Among which may be found the most fashionable as well as the most substantial. Manufactured in Philadelphia, mechanically cut, and unsurpassed in neatness of pattern and design, purchased particularly for this market, and for the winter season of 1849-50.

Merchants in the interior, and adjacent parts of Canada, are invited to call at No. 61, Woodward Avenue, and examine the extensive stock of the subscribers. Having purchased their entire stock this season, in the Philadelphia market, they can offer a great variety of styles and sizes, and sell their goods to wholesale purchasers at New York whole-sale prices; or at retail in quantities to suit purchasers, at their usual low and satisfactory prices.

FAGLE & ELLIOTT.

No. 61, Woodward Avenue, Larned Block, nearly opposite the Presbyterian Church, Detroit.

CLOTHING EMPORIUM.



AND
Gentlemen's Furnishing Establishment,
Corner of Jefferson and Woodward Avenues, Detroit.
A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF ARTICLES, usually kept in a Clothing Establishment, constantly on hand and for sale at the lowest possible rates.
Cloths, Cassimeres, Vestings, &c., on hand and made up to order in the most fashionable and durable style.
HALLOCK & RAYMOND.

DR. L. C. ROSE, having purchased the right to use Dr. Banning's Body Brace in the State of Michigan, asks to announce that he may be consulted gratuitously at his office and residence, on Miami Avenue Detroit, relative to the use of the Brace for the auxiliary relief of weaknesses of the vocal, pulmonary, digestive, spinal and nervous systems, in the case of both ladies and gentlemen, particularly in the case of weakness and spinal deformities, so common to children, ladies, and sedentary gentlemen in this climate.

The principle on which these affections are relieved by the brace is:—

1st. By firmly supporting the joints or weak part of the back, pushing it forward under the shoulder, and thereby balancing the latter upon the body's axis.

2d. By lifting, but not compressing the sunken abdomen; also removing a dragging from the parts above, thereby expanding the waist and chest and strengthening the whole body by the consequent upward and outward bracing of the supported organs, an action and principle entirely different from that of corsets and shoulder braces, removing all desire for, or propriety in their use.

The medical profession are invited to call.
A lady in attendance upon ladies.
Rooms open from 9 to 12 A. M., and from 2 to 8 P. M.
Patients unable to go out will be visited at their dwellings, whenever the request is made.
Physicians can be supplied with the braces at a liberal discount at wholesale.

Also, the braces can be obtained of Dr. Thomas B. Clark, on Jefferson Ave.

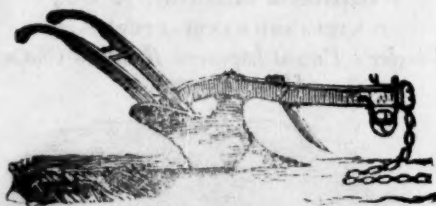
T. H. ARMSTRONG,
Manufacturer of and Dealer in
SUPERIOR HATS AND CAPS,
No. 58, Woodward Avenue,
(Between the Presbyterian Church, and Jefferson Avenue,
Sign of Big Hat, Detroit.)

ALSO, Dealer in Furs, Robes, Muffs, Umbrellas, Canes, Gloves, Scarfs, Cravats, Suspenders, Buckskin Gloves, &c., very cheap for cash.

Would respectfully solicit the patronage of Farmers and others coming into the city, pledging himself to sell as cheap as any other establishment east of New York.

His stock of Hats and Caps are of his own manufacture and warranted the best.

Orders for any style of Hat or Cap promptly attended to.



**STOVES AND
Agricultural Implements.**
THE subscribers offer for sale, on reasonable terms, a general assortment of Stoves, Tin, Copper, Sheet Iron, and Hollow wares, of every description.

—ALSO—
an assortment of agricultural implements, including Peckshill, Eagle, Wisconsin and Michigan Plows, Cultivators, Cradles, Scythes, Hoes, Rakes, Shovels, Scrapers, Forks, Churns (atmospheric) Wash Boards, &c., &c.

D. O. & W. PENFIELD.

**DETROIT SEED STORE
And Agricultural Warehouse!**

GARDEN, FIELD, AND FLOWER SEEDS,
IMPORTED Flower Roots, Agricultural Implements and Machines, Starbuck's Troy Plow, Rugles Nourse & Mason's Eagle Plow, and Wisconsin Plow, Grati's fanning mills, Riche's straw-cutters, Emery's corn-planter and sub-drill, washing machines, corn shellers, cultivators, thermometer chains, &c. &c.

—ALSO—
Agents for the sale of Wheeler's Patent Improved Portable Rail Road Horse Power and Over-shot Threshers and Separators.

F. F. PARKER & BROTHER.
myl 81 Woodward Avenue.

NEW WHOLESALE BOOK-STORE!
THE undersigned, having located themselves permanently in the City of Detroit, beg leave to call the attention of the people of this State, to their No., being 180, Jefferson Avenue, where is to be found a general assortment of Books, pertaining to Agriculture, Horticulture, &c., &c., and where subscriptions are received for all "Agricultural Papers" published in this country.

—ALSO—
a complete assortment of School, Classical, Medical, Law and Miscellaneous books, together with a large assortment of stationery and Paper Hangings, and Borders to match.

For sale Wholesale and Retail, by
F. P. MARKHAM & BRO.
No. 180, Jefferson Avenue, Detroit.
Detroit, Jan'y 1st, 1850.

SMITH'S Patent Ventilating Smut Machine—
Also, Mott's Agricultural Furnace, for sale by
D. O. & W. S. PENFIELD.
Detroit, Jan'y 1, 1850.

DETROIT NURSERY.

The proprietor of this well-known establishment, would call the attention of purchasers to his stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, and Shrubbery. The trees are from one to four years' growth, very thrifty, and good size for transplanting. The stock of apple, pear—both dwarf and standard—cherry and peach, is very fine. Isabella, Catawba, Clinton, and other hardy grapes, currants, raspberries, &c. A great variety of ornamental trees, roses, pionies, &c. Asparagus, Victoria Rheubarb, &c. &c.

Orders may be left at the store of John Palmer & Co., No. 108, Jefferson avenue, Detroit; or at the Nursery, near the toll house, on the Chicago Plank Road, one mile from the City Hall.
Detroit, Oct. 25th, 1850. J. C. HOLMES.

TERMS.—The MICHIGAN FARMER is published monthly, by WARREN LHAM, at one dollar a year in advance; after three months, \$1.25; after six months, \$1.50; after nine months, \$1.75. No subscription taken for less than one year, nor discontinued till all arrears are paid.—To clubs, five copies for four dollars, twelve copies for nine dollars, and any greater number at the same rate.
Advertising, for one folio, or one hundred words, first insertion one dollar and fifty cents—twelve dollars per annum.

Office next door to Markham's Book Store, opposite Maj. Keasley—entrance same as that of the Daily Advertiser.

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